

THE ILLUSTRATED EDINBURGH NEWS



No. 680.—VOL. XXIV.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1854.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.]

FASTS AND TE DEUMS.

GREAT BRITAIN has entered upon war in defence of a great principle. She seeks no advantages for herself, except the inestimable advantage of peace. She desires no increase of territory—no augmentation of power. She has no ambitious objects of any kind to serve. She stretches forth her hand for the maintenance of law and order, and in defence of the morality of nations. In the great federation of the European States, one that is puffed up with pride, vainglory, and lust of dominion, cannot be allowed to destroy the liberty and independence even of the meanest, without peril to them all. The rulers of this nation, impressed with a full sense of their responsibilities, exhausted negotiation before they resorted to war. It cannot be laid to their charge that they were unduly ready to decide the great question at issue by the instrumentality of fleets and armies. As long as there was the remotest chance that the dictates of reason and justice would prevail over the headlong passions of the disturber of the world, they refrained from any appeal to the sword. Even at the last moment it was with reluctance they confessed that the only means of pacification left to us was the exercise of physical force against the aggressor. The nation was more impatient than its rulers, but both were of one mind as to the ultimate duty which would devolve upon them. With a clear conscience, therefore, and with a noble cause, the British people are now involved in war with one of the most formidable States in the world. As a preparative for a struggle—which may task the energies and resources of her subjects, far more than they are aware—her Majesty, as head both of the State and the Church, commanded that a day should be set apart for fasting and humiliation, “in order to obtain pardon of our sins, and in the most devout and solemn manner, to send up our prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty, and to implore

His blessing and assistance on our arms for the restoration of Peace.” There were, no doubt, many persons who, instead of making the day one of prayer and humiliation, converted it into one of riot and rejoicing; and there were others who, yielding no allegiance to the Church by law established, made it a point of principle to disobey the injunction. Upon the motives which influenced the conduct of both of these sections of the people we have no intention to expatiate. The national recognition of the fact, “that the Lord is King, be the Earth never so unquiet;” and that “He alone can give strength to the people, and restore to them the blessings of peace,” was sufficiently solemn and emphatic; and in our country there is no such thing as unanimity. But even the dissentients from the authority of the Church approved for the most part of the spirit which dictated her Majesty’s command for the observance of the day; although, for reasons of their own, they preferred to offer up their prayers at another time, and with another formula. No unseemly boasting profaned on this memorable occasion the lips of the Majesty of England; no undue reliance upon the arm of flesh was commanded by the Church; no braggart vainglory was expressed or felt by the great majority of the people. As the pious knights and combatants of the days of Chivalry made ready for the morrow’s conflict by the prayers and ablutions of the preceding night, the pious English nation prepared its spirit for the great encounter which it has undertaken by the most solemn recognition in its power that the issues of battle are in the hands of the Almighty, however great the courage, or splendid the resources, of a people. With a cause among the most righteous for which war was ever undertaken; with an ally once our foe, but now our firmest and most powerful friend; with the secret sympathy, if not the open support, of all the civilised nations of the earth; with mighty fleets—mightier than ever before were launched upon the waters; with armies and

people inspired by the same sentiment of generous resistance to wrong and oppression; and with all possible circumstances of prosperity and national well-being in our favour, we humbled ourselves before the Throne of Grace, and prayed “that our councillors might be blessed with wisdom—that our commanders by sea and land might be inspired with valour and patience, and that they might be taught amid all their perils and hardships to show forth in their lives and actions the united graces and duties of Christians as well as of soldiers.” We also prayed that in good time might be vouchsafed to us such a secure and prosperous peace as might tend to the glory of God’s name, to the honour and safety of our Sovereign and her dominions, and to the common welfare of mankind.” Supplications uttered in this spirit were worthy of the cause which prompted them, and worthy of the Christian character of the nation.

But, while the British people, strong in the sentiment of right and justice, have comported themselves thus humbly, the enemy they have to combat has acted in a very different manner. He also has made appeals to the Almighty for aid; although every man in Europe who is acquainted with the facts of contemporary history knows that the cause for which the Czar has taken up arms is the cause of rapacity and injustice; that it has been supported by proved falsehood, and by a hypocritical pretence of religion, thinly veiling the most nefarious designs of spoliation and oppression. The Czar as constantly invokes the name of God as the Italian bandit, who prayed that rich travellers might pass his way, and that he might be successful in robbing them. The Russian Autocrat not only prays, but blasphemers. While the British nation appeals to the Almighty for support in a cause which is utterly unselfish, he takes the name of God in vain, and renders thanks for bloody massacres. We have our “fasts;” and Nicholas of Russia his “Te Deums.” In defiance of his solemn promise that his aggression should be confined to the occupation



“THE ARGUS” TOWING THE FIRST RUSSIAN PRIZE INTO PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR.—(ON NEXT PAGE.)

of Moldavia and Wallachia; in defiance of the word and faith of a "gentleman"—which there is no word in the Russian language to express—he attacked in the most treacherous manner, and with an overwhelming force, a portion of the Turkish fleet that lay quietly, and suspecting no evil, in the harbour of Sinope. On that occasion, upwards of two thousand men were cruelly slaughtered; and the Russian fleet—proud of the achievement—returned in triumph to Sebastopol. It was the most "glorious" feat in the naval history of Russia, and the Emperor, to show the excess of his joy, ordered a solemn "Te Deum" to be sung in every church throughout his empire—not a prayer of humiliation, but a jubilant hymn of rejoicing that so many Turks had been murdered in the desecrated name of Christianity. In a similar manner the passage of the Danube, by a portion of his armies, was celebrated throughout his dominions. There is nothing but religious exultation to be heard in St. Petersburg and Moscow, to this day—nothing but "Te Deums" and Hosannas to the Lord for treacherous massacres, or successful acts of aggression against a neighbouring State which has committed no other fault than the great fault in the eyes of the Czar, of daring to exist, and to hold territories that he is desirous to possess. The world has already passed its verdict upon the Emperor and his "Te Deums." He has "begun in gladness," but "thereof will come in the end" defeat and shame; while we, on our part, have begun the war with reluctance—engaged in it with solemnity and religious humiliation, and without the slightest taint of ambitious and selfish feeling. The day of our rejoicing has not yet come; but that it will come—certainly, if not speedily—it would be foolish, if not wicked, to doubt.

THE FIRST RUSSIAN PRIZES.

No little commotion was caused in Portsmouth on Friday evening (last week) by the appearance in the roadstead of one of her Majesty's steam-vessels, having a sailing ship in tow, and making for the harbour with all speed. The ramparts were quickly thronged with the inhabitants, who, as soon as the vessel approached near enough for the colours of the sailing craft to be made out as Russian, loudly cheered her fortunate captors.

As the vessels came nearer, the steam-vessel was seen to be the *Argus*, revenue cruiser, Captain Grandy; and the captured vessel the *Froja*, a fine barque of 500 tons burthen, built in Finland. The *Argus* had left Southend on Thursday morning, and fell in with the *Froja* next day about noon, between the Owers and Beachy Head, about eighteen miles from the latter point. The Russian vessel had no colours up at the time, but the suspicions of Captain Grandy were excited by seeing the Russian arms carved and painted on the ship's stern. He ordered her to bring to, which she did, hoisting Russian Finland colours. He then boarded her, but the captain refused to give him any information as to his country or destination. Captain Grandy, however, soon made himself acquainted with all he wished to know, by overhauling the ship's papers, and then told Captain Weekman, of the *Froja*, that he must consider his vessel a prize. Captain Weekman offered no obstacle or resistance, merely remarking that the capture of his vessel was a bad job for him. Resistance, indeed, was hardly possible, as, although the *Froja* had four guns on board, they were very small, and hardly serviceable, and not to be pitted against the two 32-pounders carried by the *Argus*; joined to which the latter had a crew more than double that of the Russian, and the additional aid of her screw-propeller, by which she could have placed herself in such a position at the stern of her prize, and retained that position, as would have enabled her to sink her easily.

On taking possession, the *Argus* put an officer and a crew on board, and, sending out a rope, took her in tow, and brought her into Portsmouth at sunset the same evening. The *Argus* towed her well up the harbour to moorings off the Dockyard, where she now remains. She is a fine ship, four years old, and apparently in good condition. She left Lisbon on the 28th ult., with about 600 tons of salt as cargo, and was bound for Abo, although her master says Elsinore. It is supposed that he would not have attempted to get up the Baltic, but have tried to run into a Dutch port, where he could have sold the vessel with her cargo, and made his way home overland. The crew, who are mostly Finns, do not appear much distressed at their capture; in fact, they seem very cheerful. Had they reached Abo, they would probably have been forced to go on board a Russian vessel by order of the Czar.

Another Russian merchant vessel was brought into Portsmouth harbour on Tuesday morning. The *Argus*, revenue screw cruiser, was the lucky vessel that made this prize, which is a brig of 240 tons burthen, laden with salt. Captain Grandy fell in with her off the Owers, at 9.30 on Monday night. It was very dark at the time, but the sharp eyes of the watch detected the prize, and a few musket shots across the bows brought her to. She is named the *Livonia*, Captain Matzkait, and was from Lisbon to Elsinore. She left Lisbon on the 26th ult., a week or so before the declaration of war had arrived out, having been detained in the Channel by contrary winds. Her captain was much surprised to learn that war had been declared, as well as chagrined to find himself a prisoner. He offered no resistance, and was at once taken in tow by the *Argus*, and brought into port. The *Livonia* is the property of the firm of Schroeder, of Riga.

Early on Tuesday morning a Russian merchant ship was reported to the Customs' authorities at Plymouth by a trawling boat to have been seen off that port on Monday evening. The master of the trawler boarded her about seven o'clock p.m. on Monday, five miles south of the Bolt, and having ascertained her tonnage and cargo—she was laden with 600 tons of salt—he proceeded with all despatch to Plymouth to give information. The master of the trawling boat, it appeared, boarded the Russian for the purpose of endeavouring to sell some fish, and the Captain then boldly told him that his was a Russian ship, and he knew not which way to steer for fear of being made a prize of. On being informed by the mate of the trawler of the proximity of the French Baltic fleet, the Russian Captain evinced much alarm, and immediately changed his course, preferring, in the event of his capture, to fall into the hands of the English. On receiving the intelligence, the Port-Admiral, Sir John Omaney, ordered the *Avon*, 2, paddle-wheel steam-ship, to get up her steam and proceed to sea in search of her. The *Avon* left at half-past six, taking with her the person who gave the information, and a party of marines from the *Impregnable*, flag-ship. The master of the smack had directed another fishing-boat to keep in company with the Russian ship, in order that she might be easily detected from a distance. The Russian was under close-reefed topsails, and had an adverse wind to contend with. The *Avon* succeeded in laying hold of her at half-past one, about twelve miles south of the Starb. She proved to be the *Carlos*, 400 tons, of Finland, from Lisbon, to a Russian port in the Baltic. She left Lisbon on March 25, and had been beating about in the Channel since. She is built of fir, laden with salt, and is a splendid vessel; her crew numbers fourteen men, but they offered no resistance. She was compelled to hoist her flag, and was brought into Plymouth on Tuesday night with the English ensign flying at her peak end, and the Russian Black Sea flag under.

On Wednesday morning, the *Vesta*, of Wasa, a fine barque, 472 tons, 2 guns, 11 men, from Theresia, laden with 600 tons of salt, was brought into Portsmouth, by the *Mermaid* screw revenue cruiser. The vessel alone is valued at £2500. On the same day the *Nadeschda* and the *Aina*, both from Lisbon, laden with salt—the one bound for Helsingfors, the other for Christiansand—were brought into Sheerness by the *Alban*, 4 guns, paddle-wheel steamer. The owners of the *Nadeschda* had sent directions to the captain to sell the vessel at Lisbon; but he refused an offer of £2500 for her, thinking he ought to have £3000.

A LARGE PIECE OF AMBER.—Some workmen, while recently digging in a field on the domain of Svenninge, near Holbeck, in Denmark, found, about a mile from the Gulf of Isefiord, a piece of yellow amber, which is said to be the largest ever yet discovered. It is two feet long, one foot and a half broad, and one foot thick. It is of a clear yellow colour, and very pure. The Government proposes to purchase it for the Royal Museum of Natural History at Copenhagen, which already possesses a piece of extraordinary size, estimated in value at 450*l.*, and which was found near the same spot in 1866.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The circumstance of the Duke of Cambridge having gone to Vienna, instead of proceeding at once to his destination, has been the theme of yet more comments and speculation than that of the Emperor placing him on his right at the review. The Bourse, ever ready to jump with equal excitement to the most contradictory conclusions, was sensibly affected by this unexpected step. A thousand versions—most of them as destitute of plausibility as of truth—have been in circulation; and the idea that the Duke was charged with a special mission, to induce the Emperor of Austria to adopt a more decided course, and to join his forces to those of England and France in the coming war, has been generally adopted.

The Maréchal St. Arnaud is not to arrive at Gallipoli till about the 10th of May, as, instead of going there direct, he proceeds in the first instance to Athens; where, it is believed, he is to demand a categorical explanation of the course and intentions of King Otho.

The General Youssouf is to accompany the expedition, and his wife is to travel in company with Madame St. Arnaud, who—here is a detail interesting to our female readers—has provided herself for the dangers and roughing of the fierce campaign about to ensue with upwards of sixty dresses of the newest modes, to appear at the fêtes and receptions at Constantinople! We remember once listening with much interest to a clever traveller relating his experience of the Desert, and his impressions of the Pyramids, when one of the auditors, who had appeared to be extremely edified by the details, interrupted the narrator with the question, "Fray is the society in Egypt pleasant?" Mdme. St. Arnaud's travelling kit brought the anecdote strongly to our remembrance.

Marseilles has performed a culinary *tour de force* in serving to the Prince Napoléon, in consideration of its being the Jeudi Saint, a magnificent banquet *maigre*.

The bill of fare was printed in gold letters, and a copy placed on the plate of each of the guests. At the departure of the Prince, the same sympathy and regard were manifested as during the whole of his progress. M. Emile de Girardin started for Paris on the night of the arrival at Toulon. *Apropos* of the celebrated *publiciste*, he has just gained a trial, on a complaint brought by him against M. Eugène de Mirecourt, for a libel contained in a notice of the life of M. de Girardin, published in his biographies entitled "*Les Contemporains*."

Our readers may recollect our mentioning, some time since, a formidable demonstration, made by the friends and admirers of Mdme. George Sand against M. de Mirecourt, for certain grave errors and misstatements in his biographical notice of her life, in the same publication. Decidedly, writing contemporary history, when treating of individuals, is treading dangerous ground—*qui s'y frote s'y pique*. At the same time, if such difficulties present themselves in the way of obtaining the true histories of those who live in our own day, what degree of faith are we to place in the details given respecting the events of the lives of our predecessors? These examples, unfortunately, go far to invalidate anterior biography; for, be it understood, M. de Mirecourt is no wilful libeller—no abusive scribbler; and, however erroneous may be his assertions, they are made *de bonne foi*, and drawn from what he believes to be competent authority.

So much was the Emperor gratified by the rapidity and completeness of the execution of the preparations made at the Elysée, in removing the scaffolding, and other traces of the works of reparation going on, and in putting the entrance and exterior in order for the fête given there, on Monday week, to the Duke of Cambridge, that, to testify his satisfaction, he ordered that a dinner should be given to all the workmen employed. This fête took place on Thursday, in the *manège* of the park of Monceaux, presided over by M. Eugène Lacroix, the architect of the palace. Upwards of 400 *ouvriers* partook of the repast, and numerous toasts were drunk to the Emperor and Empress.

On Saturday, the Princess Mathilde gave a splendid ball, which their Majesties attended. On Tuesday, a fête and theatrical representation took place at the *Hôtel de Ville*; and during the course of the week, various Ministerial receptions occurred.

The Archbishop of Paris has commanded to be posted and read in the churches, a circular letter which has produced a strong sensation. This circular is one relative to the observance of the Sabbath, and the cessation of labour on that day. It is expressed in very energetic terms, and, in accordance with the well-known democratic principles of the Archbishop, exclaims warmly against the spirit of interest and cupidity which, independent of the question of disregard of religious motives, induces those in authority to sacrifice the repose of the people on the day specially intended for rest.

The work of demolition is going on with, if possible, increased activity here. In the Rue St. Honoré, from the Place du Palais Royal to the Rue de Rohan, all the houses are marked for destruction, and the work of pulling them down, commenced but a few days since, is, it is said, ordered to be terminated in a fortnight. The same process is then to begin in front of the Théâtre Français; and the Rue de l'Échelle, in the same neighbourhood, has almost entirely disappeared.

The Odéon has produced three new pieces—"La Taverne," "Au Printemps," and "La Conquête de Ma Femme," by three young authors, M. Sardon, Leroy, and Laluzé—all possessing very considerable merit, and likely to continue for some time in high favour. The Porte St. Martin draws crowds with the miraculous performances of the Chinese Jugglers. The "Bonne Aventure" at the Gaité, taken from a work of Eugène Sue, the farewell piece of Frédéric-Lemaître, has not had the success anticipated for it—another instance of the inexpediency of dramatising novels.

PRINCE LUCIEN BONAPARTE.

A private letter from Rome of the 12th instant gives some details of the journey of Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte (whose portrait we gave last week), and of his reception in the various towns he passed through. On his arrival at Bologna his Highness was visited by M. Grasselli, Extraordinary Commissioner of the Holy Father, and by His Excellency Count de Deghenfeldt de Schonberg, Lieutenant Marshal commanding the 8th Corps of the Austrian Army in the Roman States. These two personages took great interest in showing the curiosities of Bologna to the Prince. The box of the Pontifical Commissioner was placed at the disposal of the Prince on his visit to the Opera in the evening. His Highness met with a similar reception at Ancona on the part of Monsignor Arnici, Commissioner Extraordinary, and the Count Hojos, the General commanding the Austrian troops. The object of Prince Lucien's visit to Ancona was to see his mother, the widow of Lucien, Prince of Canino, the brother of Napoleon I. The Prince arrived at Rome on the evening of the 9th. On the following morning he received a visit from Cardinal Antonelli, the Minister Secretary of State; from Count de Rayneval, Ambassador of France; and General de Montreal, Commanding-in-Chief of the French army of occupation. In the course of the day, Cardinal Antonelli informed the Prince that the Pope would receive him on the 11th. The French Ambassador called for his Highness at his hotel, and presented him and Major Cavagnari, the Prince's secretary, to his Holiness. Prince Lucien remained alone with the Pope, and his audience lasted an hour and a half. It was remarked as a particular favour that the Pontiff gave so long an audience to the Prince in the midst of the occupations of the Holy Week; and it was said that His Holiness expressed very warmly his gratitude for all that the Emperor did for him. On Thursday, the 13th, and Sunday, the 16th, the Prince was to be present at the great religious solemnities. Rome was full of strangers of distinction, and it was with some difficulty that the Prince and attendants were able to procure an apartment in the Piazza di Spagna, at the Hôtel Terny. His Highness was to leave Rome on the 19th for Florence.

THE WAR.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE CZAR.

The latest accounts from St. Petersburg speak of the financial difficulties of Russia as increasing with so much rapidity that a climax may be daily expected. It appears that, in his last ukase, the Czar has ordered an augmentation to his army of 144,000 men. Upon this, the *Pays* remarks that it is very easy to order such levies, but that an ukase will not create finances, nor ammunition, nor provender, nor the many thousand *et cetera* which are indispensable in order to make an army formidable or efficient. In the Hungarian war, which was a mere joke when compared with the present gigantic struggle, and in which the Czar had only 120,000 men engaged, he was forced to have recourse to England for a loan; and he actually contracted one in London for 137 millions. The present war has forced almost all the Powers of Europe to contract loans. France has completed hers; England is adding six millions to her floating debt; and Austria is at the present moment endeavouring to negotiate a loan, which she would be glad to get in London or anywhere else. But where is the Czar to turn for the money which he requires, and which he has not got?

Stockholm and other Swedish towns swarm with fugitives, who are pouring out of Finland. Many, too, have left Aland, in order to escape the Russian press-gangs. The Russian fleet is in great want of seamen, and, as it is preparing to take the sea as soon as the ice gives way, the authorities lay violent hands on young and old. In the night, fathers of families are hurried off without a moment's grace, and the result is, that whole households fly to Sweden with bag and baggage, in order to escape such tyranny.

The St. Petersburg *Police Gazette* contradicts the report of the Imperial family intending to leave St. Petersburg for Moscow. The hard cash of the bank of Helsingfors has been transported to St. Petersburg, and many of the inhabitants of the former place were leaving from fear of a bombardment.

Letters from Abo, of the 4th, state that the 9th regiment of infantry had left there *en route* for Wasa, and that on the 2nd inst. two companies of Riflemen had been ordered from Abo to Aland; by which disposition of troops the former reports, stating that Aland would be evacuated by the Russians, seem to be contradicted.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

For several days reports have been received regarding an important battle in the Dobrudja, in which the Russians are said to have been defeated with a loss of 3000, while the Turks lost about half that number. Letters from the Lower Danube, of the 13th, state that the engagement took place on the 10th, between Paschagiaz and Kostelli; and that, although victorious, Mustapha Pacha, owing to his want of more forces, was unable to follow up his advantages as he would have wished, and was therefore obliged to content himself with driving his adversaries into the swamp which lies between Paschagiaz, Kagarlik, and Taschaul. A body of marines from the British and French fleets stationed off Kustendje, are said to have rendered the Turkish commander immense assistance, by keeping the Russian left wing warmly engaged during their comrades' defeat. Like a great many other pieces of intelligence from the East, "this news requires confirmation;" but there seems to be some ground for the report, if we may credit the statement that the Emperor of the French announced it as reliable that a battle had taken place, and that victory had been gained by the Ottoman troops.

At Kalafat the Russians, who had been preparing for a combined movement for some days, made an attack on the 16th, but were repulsed with the loss of nearly 500 men. A telegraphic despatch from Vienna, of the 24th instant, states that "sixteen squadrons of Hussars and eight squadrons of Cossacks, with six cannon, having come to reconnoitre the Turkish lines, the Pasha sent two regiments of regulars, some of Bash-bozouks, and six cannon, against them. The combat lasted three hours. The Russians were driven back vigorously. They lost 500 men. The Turks had 14 men killed, and 33 wounded."

There are rumours of the surrender of Silistria; of the withdrawal of the Russians from Kalafat to Krajova; and of the Russian army in the Dobrudja having begun to fortify its position there; instead of marching forward; but none of them have been confirmed.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

A report was current in the early part of the week, that the Allied fleets had bombarded Odessa. The town, it was said, was partly destroyed, and the Russian batteries had been silenced with some difficulty. The despatch was dated Constantinople, April 14, but later advices from the Turkish capital make no mention of it. The bombardment was described as having taken place on the 13th, but if it had, there ought to have been further accounts of the transaction by this time. It seems probable, however, that hostilities had commenced rather seriously at last. On the 14th a general illumination took place on board the vessels, on account of the welcome intelligence.

A letter from Odessa of the 12th instant says:—

The French and English ships which lately left our neighbourhood and were understood to be off Akyerman have again appeared before our port in increased numbers. With a telescope our officers are able to see, from the light tower, four ships of the line, seven frigates, and ten smaller vessels, cruising before Odessa. Great preparations are made here for resisting an attack. All the principal ports in the city are occupied by strong detachments, and patrols pass through the streets day and night. The men appointed to the batteries are all at their posts. At night every householder is required to place a light before his dwelling. Tubs of water are provided at the corners of the streets, and the people are warned to make similar provisions against fire in every story of their houses. The Government has bought up all the corn which had accumulated here; a great part of it is on its way to the Dobrudja, and some to Bender. The scarcity of ready money is frightful.

As the Russian army of the Dobrudja receives its supplies from Odessa, the capture of that town would be a serious loss to the enemy. The news of the declaration of war, which arrived at Kavarna about the 9th, had caused great rejoicing. On the 10th a general illumination took place on board the vessels, on account of the welcome intelligence.

The Russians seem determined to shut the navigation of the Danube against the passage of the Allied fleets. Not content with what had been previously done to interrupt the navigation, General Schilder had notified to the inspector of the Austrian Lloyd Company at Galatz, that he intended to close the Sulina mouth of the Danube altogether, by sinking three vessels laden with sand. When that has been accomplished, the only mouth that will be left open is that of Kilia, where there is not more than eight feet of water. The last accounts from Odessa say that the people of that town had seen some monster dredging-machines in tow of our war-steams, whence it was inferred that our men were going to deepen the Sulina channel. Should they attempt that task, they will require to silence the heavy batteries which the Russians have erected there.

THE ALLIED TROOPS AT GALLIPOLI.

Take dilapidated out-houses of the farmers' yards in England—remove rickety old wooden tenements of Holywell-street, Wych-street, and the Borough—catch up, wherever you can, any seedy, cracked, shutterless structure of planks and tiles that have escaped the ravages of time in our cathedral towns—carry off sheds and stalls from Billingsgate, and add to them the huts along the shores of the Thames between London-bridge and Greenwich—bring them all to the European side of the Straits of the Dardanelles—and, having pitched on the most exposed portion of the coast, on a bare round hill, sloping away to the water's edge, with scarcely tree or shrub, tumble them "higgledy-piggledy" on its declivity, in such wise that the streets may resemble, on a large scale, the devious traces of a bookworm through some old tome—let the roadway be very narrow, of irregularly varying breadth, according to the bulgings and projections of the houses, and filled with large round slippery stones, painful and hazardous to walk upon—here and there borrow a dirty gutter from a back street in Boulogne—let the houses in parts lean across to each other so that the tiles meet, or that a few planks thrown across from over the doorways unite and form a sort of "passage" or arcade—steal some of our popular monuments, the shafts of various national testimonials or Irish round towers—surround them with a light gallery about twelve feet from the top, put on a large extinguisher-shaped roof, paint them all white, and, having thus made them into minarets, clap them down into the maze of buildings—then let fall big stones all over the place—plant little windmills with odd-looking sails on the crests of the hill over the town—transport the ruins of a feudal fortress from northern

Italy, and put it in the centre of the town, with a flanking tower extending to the water's edge—erect a few buildings of wood by the water side to serve as café, custom-house, and Government stores—and, when you have done this, you have to all appearance imitated the process by which the town of Gallipoli was created.

A very short time, however, will serve to make considerable changes in the place. A speculator from Smyrna has already transformed an old tumble-down ruin into a grand *Restaurant à l'Europeenne*, with the following inscription above, marked out apparently with the finger—“*Restaurant de l'Armée Auxiliare*.” The Turkish market is amply provided with every kind of provision. Meat is from three to four sous a pound; the wine of Tenedos is from eight to ten sous a bottle—that is, the large bottle holding a French litre; and fowls are from fifteen to twenty sous each. Rice, bacon, salt meats, and wine, for the troops have been sent from France by the French Government; and each soldier is to have daily a ration of wine or coffee. A contract entered into at Smyrna ensures to the French army 2000 oxen, which are to be conveyed to Gallipoli by the *Marocain* and the *Africain*. All along the Dardanelles, and particularly on the European side, are thousands upon thousands of sheep, to all appearance waiting the arrival of the troops. In addition, a commission has been formed of some of the principal persons in the country, to second the administration in all the operations of victualling the army.

The soldiers of the Engineers are busied in making carriage-roads from the point of landing to the different camps, in order to facilitate the transport of the various stores and artillery which are shortly expected. The streets are swept every day with care, particularly in the quarter occupied by the officers of the staff and the administration, and before long Gallipoli will have assumed the air of a French town of Algeria.

Captain Sévérin, of the Chasseurs de Vincennes, has been named commandant of the town, and is occupied in establishing order in the most perfect manner, so as to completely reassure the inhabitants. A few days after the French troops arrived, the Turkish women and children had begun to make their appearance in the streets. It seems that the Greek women had conceived the most alarming apprehensions of the French soldiers, in consequence of a frightful picture which their bishop thought fit to make to them of the morals and character of the French. This zealous pastor, who was formerly a monk, has received orders to quit the town.

Considerable difference of opinion prevails as to the choice of Gallipoli as the head-quarters of the army. According to one account it is difficult to get supplies to the men defending it from the country—they must be brought by sea or across from Asia Minor; next, it is not well provided with water; and, thirdly, complaints are made of want of wood, as well of shelter. On the other hand it is alleged that, “in a strategic point of view the choice of Gallipoli as the head-quarters of the army, is excellent, and some outworks are to be constructed to protect it against a *coup de main*. In 1828, Marshal Diebitsch, after having occupied Adrianople, lost no time in sending a division of his army towards Gallipoli; for, without the possession of that place, it would have been impossible, or, at least, dangerous for him to march on Constantinople. Gallipoli, which commands the entry of the Sea of Marmora on the side of Constantinople, is at the narrowest portion of the Isthmus of Isthonia, which, at this spot, is little more than three miles broad, and which can be defended on the side towards Adrianople by an entrenched camp, which would insure to Gallipoli the aid of the fleets, either by the Straits of the Dardanelles on the one side, or the Gulf of Saros on the other. Nevertheless, the real importance of this town would only be felt in the event of the Russians passing the Balkans and getting possession of Adrianople.”

On the 17th inst. there were 25,000 French, and 8000 English soldiers at Gallipoli, and provisions were said to be very scarce. The remainder of the troops are now, therefore, going forward to Scutari, where the *Himalaya* landed nearly 2000 men, women, and officers on the 15th.

THE RUSSO-GREEK INSURRECTION.

The following circular, which has been addressed by Count Nesselrode to the diplomatic agents of Russia, with regard to the rising in Epirus, is quite in keeping with all the other documents which have issued from St. Petersburg:—

St. Petersburg, March 2, 1854.

Sir.—The memorandum annexed to my despatch of the 15th of last month has enabled you to communicate to the Government to which you are accredited a faithful and circumstantial account of our difference with Turkey, of the negotiations by which we sought to bring the Porte to a more just appreciation of our demands, and of the complications which arise therefrom in consequence of the passionate intervention of the Cabinets of Paris and London, and of the hostile attitude they assumed towards us at the very moment that they announced themselves as pacific mediators between us and the Ottoman Government. The events having acquired now the gravity which we feared for the tranquillity of Europe, we consider it a duty towards the Courts who have hitherto judged our acts without prejudice or partiality, to continue to provide them with data to enable them to judge with the same justice the situation in which some of the great Powers of Europe are desirous to place Russia in its future relations with Turkey, and the obligations thereby sought to be imposed upon the Emperor.

There is one especially which touches the conscience of the whole of Russia and of its Sovereign—that which relates to the position of the Christian populations subjected to Turkey, and upon whom the Mussulman Government and people, excited by fanaticism, and confiding in the sympathy and aid offered to them with so unjustifiable an eagerness by the Christian Powers, think themselves authorised to exercise the most cruel vexations.

Some of these populations, especially those which border upon independent Greece, driven to extremes, and losing all hope of better fate, have taken up arms to throw off a yoke which has become insupportable.

This rising, already for a long time foreseen and even announced, occupies and moves at the present moment the minds and the press of Europe. By a contradiction, which those who pretend to protect against as the power of the Crescent and the rights of the Sultan can alone explain, these same Powers, who declare war to us for the sole motive that we wished to maintain the religious immunities of the Christian of Turkey, say that they are disposed to obtain in their favour the same civil and political rights as are enjoyed by the Mussulmans.

We do not wish to draw sinister prognostics; but these tardy promises, so little in accordance with the acts of those who proclaim them, will have, we fear, no other result than to exasperate still more the oppressors against the oppressed, to provoke sanguinary reprisals, and to render for the future impossible the submission of those populations to Turkish rule.

For our part, we never demanded from the Porte in favour of its Christian subjects but what was just, practicable, and confirmed by the acts of the Sultans themselves. But, when others than ourselves come and raise up complications and calamities which fall with all their weight on our co-religionists, and drive them to an unequal struggle, we cannot refuse them our interest and our assistance.

If the rising we hear of should take greater extension—if it should become a war to the death, and of long duration, like that of the Greeks in 1821—we do not think that any Christian Power could assist in replacing these populations under the Ottoman yoke without offending its conscience. The Emperor will in no case lend his hand to it. During our war, as at the period when peace will be possible, their fate will be the object of the Emperor's care. We also hope that God will not allow that, from an unjust animosity against Russia, Christian Sovereigns shall permit their armies to join in the work of extermination, which the renegades assembled in the camp of Omer Facha meditate doubtless at this hour against those who have taken up arms for the defence of their hearths and their church.

Such, Sir, is the point of view in which we think it right to consider the rising in Epirus, the possible consequences of which we regret, which we have the consciousness not only not to have excited, but which we were unable to prevent, though we desired to do so.

You will make use of the above indications to rectify the false rumours and malicious insinuations which will doubtless be circulated also on this occasion against Russia and her intentions.

(Signed) NESSELRODE.

A despatch from Athens of April 21 states that the Gulf of Corinth is guarded by French ships of war, and that the communication between the continent and the Peloponnesus is almost entirely cut off. The Greek Government has been informed that no Greek volunteers will be allowed to enter Turkey.

THE FRENCH BALTIC FLEET.

The French Baltic squadron was seen off Plymouth on Sunday afternoon, consisting of six sail of the line, two frigates and a steamer. The Brunswick steam-packet, which left Plymouth at 1.15 on Monday afternoon, saw the French squadron off the Bolt. It consisted of seven ships and a steamer, sailing on a wind under reefed topsails. The wind dropping light, the head ship would not stay, and therefore wore round. All the others followed in line, then loosed topgallant sails, and stood away to the southward with a very light breeze. The British and Irish Steam Company's packet, *Nile*, which arrived at Plymouth on Monday evening, reports that at half-past five, the Star bearing north-west, distant twelve miles, she saw eight sail of the line and a paddlewheel frigate. The sailing vessels were under topgallant sails and royals, the steamer under easy steam and fore and aft canvas. They were all reaching off in a south-east direction.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WAR.

The Admiralty have had in consideration a plan by which their Lordships will render available for service at sea the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Woolwich division required to do duty at Deptford and Woolwich Dockyards. The plan is understood to be carried into effect by increasing the strength of the police force in these establishments ashore.

Considerable excitement was created among the apprentices to free lightermen and watermen this week, it having been announced that it is the intention of the Waterman's Company immediately to provide a portion of the quota (500 men) that the company is compelled by its charter to supply for service in the Royal Navy. This relic of the feudal system was strictly observed during the last war, and the required number is completed as follows:—Lists of the apprentices of three, four, five, and six years' standing are filed, and the number is balloted for, first from the junior classes; and should the list of apprentices be expended before a sufficiency has been obtained, the free watermen then take their turn on the ballot, or provide substitutes.

The Master-General of the Ordnance has issued instructions for the different recruiting parties to use every exertion in obtaining the desired number of men to place the Royal Artillery in such a state as to be ready for any contingency. The bounty is now increased to £5 15s. 6d., and the height, between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five, reduced to five feet six inches; collar-makers, shoe-smiths, and wheelers being eligible at a much lower standard. Militia men are now allowed to join this highly-favoured corps, the pay ranging from 12s. 3d. to £1 9s. 3d. per week. Tailors who join this corps are paid extra for work at their trade.

It is said that an efficient inspection of the defensive capabilities of the existing fortifications on the shores of Belfast Lough will be immediately made, in order to ascertain whether the present batteries, which are, indeed, few in number, and notoriously inadequate, may be enlarged, or whether new ones will require to be erected. It is also rumoured that the Admiralty are disposed to give orders for the erection of a powerful battery at the Copeland Islands, so as to command the entrance of the lough.

DEPARTURE OF LORD RAGLAN FROM MARSEILLES.

Lord Raglan and his staff arrived at Marseilles, en route for Constantinople, on the night of the 20th inst. His Lordship intended to embark instantly on board the *Caradoc*, but it blew so fierce a hurricane from the north-east that he gave up the notion and took up his quarters at the Hôtel d'Orient. On the following day, the weather still continued boisterous, several of the transports which had sailed on Thursday having been forced to return; the *Caradoc*, therefore, did not start till next day.

At one p.m. on Saturday the steam-ship left Marseilles harbour with Lord Raglan and suite for the East, touching at Malta. Notwithstanding the boisterous weather, the gale from the south-east not having abated, the captain gallantly pushed forward, and sailed out of the harbour in dashing style. The passengers on board the *Caradoc* were—Lord Raglan, Lord De Ros, Colonel Steele, Colonel Somerset, Major Wellesley, Captain Blackwood, Captain Bradford, Admiral Boxer, his Secretary and Flag-Lieutenant, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, and Mr. Wood.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER IN THE BALTIC.

The boisterous state of the weather appears to have prevented the transmission of news from the Baltic fleet, for the last fortnight. Very little has transpired regarding the movements of Sir Charles Napier, for the last ten or twelve days. In order to blockade the Gulf of Finland more closely, he has ordered one portion of the fleet to be stationed in the Gulf of Bothnia, while another portion examines the coast of Finland. Nearly forty Russian vessels have been captured by the English cruisers in the Baltic.

The English flag has been hoisted upon the various Russian and Finnish merchantmen in Kioge Bay. These ships are now all of them manned by English sailors, while the Russians are placed as prisoners of war on board the English men-of-war that are on the eve of sailing from the Danish to English ports.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT IN THE BALTIC.

A letter from Memel of the 19th inst. reports the melancholy death of a most meritorious officer, Captain J. Foote, of the corvette *Conflict*. Captain Foote went on shore on the morning of the 19th, with another officer, on business connected with the prizes. About five in the afternoon he wished to return on board. A fresh north-wester had been blowing for some time, right against the stream of the Haf, where it debouches. There was a heavy surf, especially between the moles. The head pilot at Memel strongly advised Captain Foote to take a larger boat for his return, but in vain. The captain, with his lieutenant, got into a long narrow gig that was manned with five sailors. In less than ten minutes after the boat suddenly disappeared. In an instant the life-boat was launched and manned with pilots, but it came too late to save all; the lieutenant and one of the men were still alive, and clinging to the thwart-straps of the boat, but half frozen: the captain, with four of his men, had already found a watery grave.

IMPORTANT CONVENTION BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Canada*, which sailed from Boston on the 12th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Monday. The most important news brought by her relates to a treaty which is said to have been negotiated by Mr. Buchanan between Great Britain and America. In the House of Representatives on the 10th inst., Mr. Dean, of New York, moved the following resolutions, for the purpose (as is stated by some of the papers) of opening the way for the treaty:—

Resolved: That in the war which now seems impending in Europe, it is the duty, as well as the manifest interest, of the Government of the United States to observe and maintain a strict neutrality between all the belligerents; and, in the event of a war, the rights of our citizens and the security of our commerce demand the maintenance of the principle heretofore asserted and strenuously contended for by this Government, but not hitherto admitted or established as the law of nations, that free ships make free goods, except as to articles clearly known as contraband of war; and that the neutral flag protects from unreasonable search and seizure the ships bearing it; and also that neutral property on board a vessel of any of the belligerents is not subject to seizure and confiscation.

Resolved: That the President of the United States be requested, if in his opinion not incompatible with the public interests, to communicate to this house whether any, and if any, what, arrangements have been made, and what correspondence has taken place between this Government and any of the Governments of Europe to establish the foregoing principles as international law, and to protect the neutral commerce of the United States in the event of a war between any of the Powers of Europe.

The *New York Herald* states that the draft of a convention has been concluded between Mr. Buchanan and Lord Aberdeen, on behalf of their respective Governments, “by which England admits, in the approaching European war, the doctrine that the flag covers both ship and cargo, and that free ships make free goods; also renouncing the right of search for the impressment of seamen, so far as American vessels are concerned, and conceding the restriction as to the right of blockade. In return, the United States is pledged to strict neutrality and non-intervention in the contest between the Western Powers and Russia.” The American paper speaks of the convention as a great diplomatic triumph. “It places us in the position that we should have occupied years ago,” says the *Herald*, “and at once enables us to become the great carrier on the seas of the world.”

THE SPANISH AND AMERICAN QUARREL.

The affair of the *Black Warrior* does not seem likely to be settled in an amicable manner. All accounts agree in representing the notes of M. Soulé, the United States Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, as exceedingly violent. It is said that he gave the Spanish Government only forty-eight hours for an answer; and this, moreover, in the Holy week, when, in countries professing the Christian religion, worldly affairs go on at a slower pace than usual. Such haste and violence have given some grounds for suspecting that the American Government really intended to pick a quarrel with Spain. It is too much like the conduct of Prince Menschikoff towards Turkey. The impetuous M. Soulé demanded nothing less than 300,000 dollars paid down instantaneously, and the disgrace of the Captain-General of Cuba. The reply of the Spanish Government was to the effect that no official report had been received on the subject; and that, consequently, they could not, until they had received information from their own agent, come to any determination. Thus the matter stands for the present.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

A telegraphic despatch from Marseilles anticipates the Overland Mail. It is rumoured at Prome that a revolution has broken out at Ava, and that the war Prince has poisoned his elder brother and seized the throne. Dost Mahomed has made overtures to Major Edwards for an alliance with the British Government. The report of the discovery of gold in Ceylon has been confirmed.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, the Princesses Helena and Louisa, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold, left Windsor Castle, at twenty minutes before three o'clock on Monday afternoon, travelled by a special train on the Great Western Railway to Paddington, and proceeded in several of her Majesty's carriages, escorted by a detachment of Carabiniers, to Buckingham Palace, where they arrived at twenty-three minutes before four o'clock. At four o'clock the Queen held a Privy Council, at which a proclamation was ordered to be issued respecting the Fast Day.

On Tuesday morning the Duchess of Kent paid a visit of congratulation to the Queen at Buckingham Palace, on the birthday of her Royal Highness the Princess Alice. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, went, at one o'clock, to pay a congratulatory visit to the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House, on the return of her Royal Highness's natal day. The Queen and Prince Albert left the Palace at half-past three o'clock for the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the Haymarket Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday (the day of the Solemn Fast) the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, and the Duchess of Kent, attended Divine Service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The service was performed by the Bishop of Chester and the Hon. Rev. G. Wellesley. The Bishop of Chester preached the sermon.

On Thursday her Majesty held her second Drawing-room for the present season.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester completed her seventy-eighth year on Tuesday. Her Royal Highness, although still very weak, has quite recovered from her recent indisposition.

His Excellency the Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer and family have arrived in Portland-place, from New Lodge, Windsor Forest.

The Duke and Duchess of Wellington have arrived in Belgrave-street, from Italy.

The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland have arrived in Paris, en route to London, from Genoa.

The Earl and Countess Granville have returned to town from Paris.

The Earl and Countess Constance Grosvenor have returned to town from Cliveden.

Lord Ernest Vane has been gazetted to a sub-lieutenancy in the 2nd Life Guards, having exchanged from the 57th Foot, and paid the difference. Of the former distinguished regiment, it will be remembered, his late lamented father was for many years the Colonel.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA'S NUPTIALS.

The Imperial bride arrived at Schonbrunn on Saturday. She left Linz at eight in the morning, and was met at Nussdorf by the Emperor. The solemnization of the Imperial nuptials took place on Monday. Great enthusiasm prevailed on the occasion in Vienna. The Emperor has granted an amnesty to 356 political prisoners, of whom 245 receive a full pardon; the sentences of the others are commuted into various terms of imprisonment. All criminal suits in Galicia for treason are quashed. All similar suits for offences against his Majesty throughout the empire are quashed. The state of siege in Lombardy and the Venetian territory will be raised entirely after the 1st of May. The Emperor has also ordered 200,000 florins to be distributed among the poor of the various provinces.

CONTRABAND OF WAR.—A letter from The Hague states that an attempt has been made to convey by sea to Hamburg 200 cases of muskets of Belgian manufacture, which there was reason to suppose were intended for Russia. The *Staats Courant* very appropriately publishes several documents which have for object to remind commercial men of the obligations imposed on neutrals during the continuance of hostilities, and they have been very well received by public opinion. At the same time the Custom-house authorities appear disposed to exercise a very strict surveillance over everything connected with articles which are contraband of war. The Swiss Federal Council has addressed to the Confederated States a copy of the declarations made by France and England on the subject of neutrals; accompanied by a circular, in which they warn all those who carry on a trade in military effects with foreign countries that “they can only blame themselves for any loss they may sustain; and that they must not look for any protection on the part of the Swiss authorities.”

A FOREST ON FIRE.—A few days since, as a train of waggons laden with merchandise was passing on the part of the railway from Berlin to Hamburg which runs along the edge of the forest of Friesacker, a spark from the locomotive set fire to the wood. A despatch was sent off to Berlin by electric telegraph, and in a short time twenty firemen, with engines, arrived by railway; but, notwithstanding all their efforts, all the flames could not be got under until 400 acres of the forest had been destroyed.

BALL AT THE JARDIN D'HIVER, AT PARIS.

The annual Ball in favour of the English Charitable Fund took place on the night of the 20th instant, at the Jardin d'Hiver, and passed off most brilliantly. The large room near the entrance, was used as a vestibule, whilst the vast hemicycle of the garden was transformed into a magnificent ball-room, at one end of which was a raised platform, occupied by Strauss's band; whilst the other end was fitted up with seats for the lady patronesses and other guests. The whole was brilliantly lighted up with a vast quantity of chandeliers and girandoles, and by four lofty palm trees, the slight foliage and branches of which were marked out by jets of gas. Flowers and evergreens were disposed with great taste on every side, and the *coup d'œil* which the animated scene presented about half-past ten, when Lord and Lady Cow



BALL AT THE JARDIN D'HIVER, AT PARIS, IN AID OF THE ENGLISH CHARITABLE FUND.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

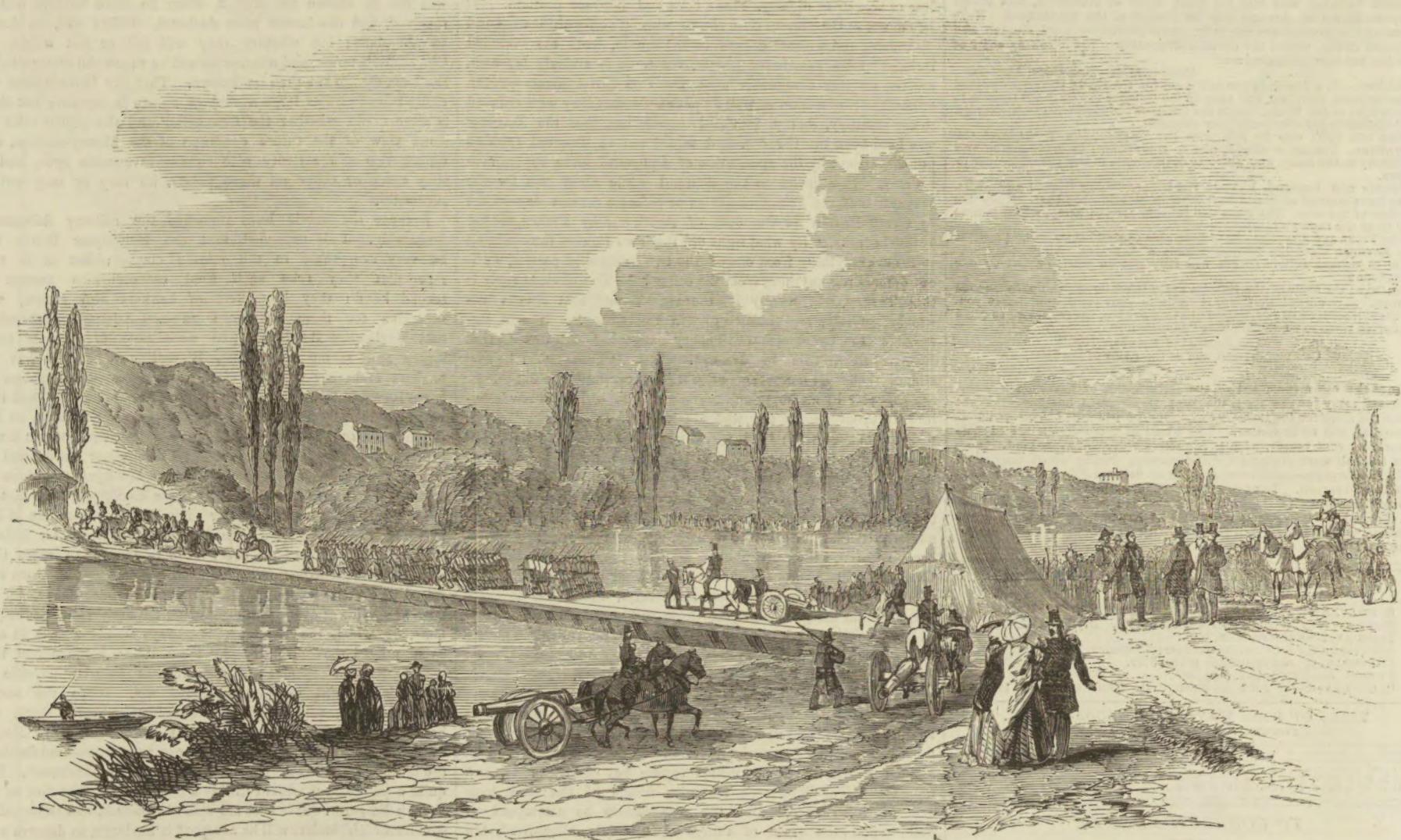
grotto in the centre, composed of pink and green Chinese lights—presented a *coup d'œil* of which none but an eye-witness could form an idea; whilst the varied groups tended to enhance the brilliancy of the scene. Of the palace itself—the apartments all newly restored and gilt with profusion, the furniture of the most splendid description, with the various decorations, together with the brilliancy of the scene, illuminated by

thousands of wax-tapers from splendid candelabra in every direction, together with the brilliancy of the various military costumes, and the variety and elegance of the dresses of the fair sex, must have given his Royal Highness and the visitors who accompanied him an idea that they were present at a "house-warming" unequalled in the annals of France —so celebrated for its national fêtes. The buffets were served with more

than ordinary profusion, the refreshments of all sorts being of the choicest kind. Their Majesties retired about one o'clock; after which the remainder of the company began to retire gradually, but it was not until "daylight had begun to dawn" that the whole of the company had left. Dancing—which, at the commencement, had been almost an "impossibility"—was kept up with spirit to the last.



FETE GIVEN BY THE EMPEROR TO LORD RAGLAN, THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, AND SUITES, IN THE GARDENS OF THE ELYSEE, AT PARIS.



BRIDGING EXPERIMENT AT JOINVILLE-LE-PONT, NEAR PARIS, BEFORE THE EMPEROR, LORD RAGLAN, AND THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

BRIDGING EXPERIMENT NEAR PARIS.

DURING the late visit of the Duke of Cambridge to Paris he was present at a very curious experiment, in throwing a bridge of boats over the river Marne, which was made for the satisfaction of the Emperor, at Joinville-le-Pont, last Saturday week. A large crowd had assembled to witness the experiment, and the Emperor and his Royal Highness were received with acclamations by the people.

The Emperor was received at the entrance to the Park of Vincennes by the Commandant of the fortress and the superior officers of the garrison, who escorted them to the limits of the park. They then proceeded on foot towards the Marne, to the spot where the new bridge of boats, invented by M. Janvier, civil architect, had been thrown across. It was 225 feet long, and composed of forty-five boats, joined together with very light frames covered with indiarubber cloth; and, notwithstanding the lightness of the structure and the delicacy of the framework, it supported, apparently without straining, a battalion of chasseurs, a squadron of cavalry, and a battery of 12-pounders. Its appearance was so slight that the spectators were

alarmed for the consequences at first, when they saw the cavalcade of troops venturing across it; but their fears were speedily set at rest: the battalion, the squadron, and the battery of artillery, all passed over it without any perceptible oscillation, or the slightest accident. As the troops passed over, they shouted "Vive l'Empereur," with an enthusiasm, which spread to the crowds who lined the banks of the river, and who repeated the *vivats* with equal heartiness. After the passage of the troops, the Emperor and his party minutely examined all the details of the construction of the bridge. Before leaving, the Emperor congratulated the inventor on the success of his experiment, and assured him that, if subsequent trials should turn out as well, the new bridge would certainly be adopted.

EMBARKATION OF FRENCH TROOPS AT TOULON.

THE French Minister of Marine lately addressed a despatch to the Maritime Prefect of Toulon, expressing his satisfaction at the activity displayed in the dockyard. The rapidity with which the various detach-

ments of troops for the expedition to the East were embarked on board the vessels prepared for them, has also been highly commended, as showing the excellent order prevailing in that port. During the twelve days ending on April 4, no less than 8000 infantry sailed from Toulon for the Dardanelles. The screw-ship *Napoleon* carried 1200 men; and the *Suffren*, line-of-battle ship, 1100. Among other regiments which sailed from Toulon was the 3rd Regiment of Marine Infantry, 2200 strong. These troops, who were originally intended to do duty exclusively in the colonies, were fully equipped for a campaign, each man carrying, besides his knapsack, a blanket, hatchet, shovel, and sticks to fasten the tents.

Marshal St. Arnaud, on Friday, the 21st, reviewed the troops of the garrison and of the different corps at Marseilles, intended to form part of the army of the East. The troops were drawn up in the Allées de Meilhan. The Marshal arrived on the ground accompanied by Lord Raglan and their respective staffs, and also by General Rostolan and a number of other officers. After passing along the lines, the Marshal and Lord Raglan took their station opposite the Lycée, and the filing off took place amidst loud cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" In the evening, Lord Raglan and his staff were present at a grand banquet given by



EMBARKATION OF FRENCH TROOPS, AT TOULON.

Marshal St. Arnaud to all the superior officers at Marseilles. The English General, who was the great object of attraction, was seated between Mme. St. Arnaud and the Prefect of the department. Next morning the Marshal and his lady, accompanied by Lord Raglan and Admiral Boxer, visited the *Caradoc* steam-ship. The following order of the day has been published:

Head-quarters, Marseilles, April 20.

Soldiers.—In a few days you will leave for the East; you go to defend allies unjustly attacked, and take up the defiance the Czar has thrown to the nations of the West. From the Baltic to the Mediterranean, Europe will applaud your efforts and your successes.

You will fight side by side with the English, the Turks, and the Egyptians. You know what is due to companions in arms—union and cordiality in the camp, and absolute devotedness to the common cause in action.

France and England, hitherto rivals, are to day friends and allies. They have learned to esteem each other in fighting together. They are masters of the seas. The fleets will provide for the army, whilst famine will be in the enemy's camp.

The Turks and Egyptians have been able to stand their ground against the Russians since the commencement of the war. Alone, they beat them in several actions; what will they not do when backed by our battalions?

Soldiers! the eagle of the Empire again takes its flight, not to menace Europe, but to defend it. Carry it again as your fathers did before you. As then, repeat, all of you, before quitting France, the cry which so often conducted them to victory—"Vive l'Empereur!"

The Marshal of France,
Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the East,

A. DE SAINT ARNAUD.

Since the commencement of the embarkation of the French expeditionary army for the East, the War Department has freighted 354 merchant ships for the transport of troops, of which 288 were hired at Marseilles, and 66 at Genoa. The whole of these vessels are capable of carrying 6500 horses, with 14,000 tons for stores of every kind. More than the half were engaged for four months, during which they could make two voyages—each occupying, on an average, fifty days for the departure and return. In addition to this, a certain number of vessels was also freighted in Algeria. The creation of the sixth squadron for each of the fifty-three regiments of cavalry, as decreed in the *Moniteur* of Wednesday, will give an addition to the army of from 8000 to 10,000 horses.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 29.—2nd Sunday after Easter.
MONDAY, May 1.—Prince Arthur born, 1500. Dryden died, 1700.
TUESDAY, 2.—Camden born, 1551.
WEDNESDAY, 3.—Columbus discovered Jamaica, 1492.
THURSDAY, 4.—Seringapatam taken, 1799.
FRIDAY, 5.—Napoleon I. died 1821.
SATURDAY, 6.—St John the Evangelist. Battle of Prague, 1757.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE. FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 6, 1854.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 50	4 5	4 20	4 35	4 55	5 10	5 20
5 50	6 10	6 35	7 0	7 30	8 5	8 50

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OUR CENSUS.—Some statements have reached us of omissions in the Census, which are chiefly amongst the towns, and are of less consequence, inasmuch as there is in another part of the Census a list of Parliamentary towns, containing the omitted places. A correct list of all omissions will be hereafter published, and supplied gratuitously to purchasers.

MR. SCALES is informed that the figures he referred to fell out in going through the press, and the error is corrected.

A CONSTANT READER, Henley.—See the "Self-Instructing Latin Grammar."

KNAPSACK.—A Correspondent suggests, with reference to the derivation of the word "knapsack," at page 355, that the word is pure Danish—"knap," a coat, and "sack," sack or bag. The word is pronounced *Knapp*, being distinctly uttered. Webster gives the derivation from the German *knapsack*.

A CAPTAIN'S DAUGHTER, who has commenced a penny subscription for the wives and children of those brave fellows who have gone to the war, is thanked for her communication; and is referred to a paper in our present Number, entitled "Subscriptions for Soldiers' Wives."

J. N. R., Heacham.—Mr. Baxter's picture of "La Fensee" was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for April 8.

A CONSTANT READER.—Lady Sharp is the widow of the late learned antiquary Sir Cuthbert Sharp, F.S.A., who died in 1849.

A CONSTANT READER.—An illegitimate child may adopt any surname.

W. H. W.—Apply at the College of Arms, Doctors' Commons.

D. N. G.—Lord Campbell's peerage and title will be inheritable by his family, so long as one male descendant of his body remains.

PETRARCHE.—It is indispensable that a Lady be presented to the Queen by some other Lady who has already been at Court.

J. F.—The Marquis of Anglesea was born 17th May, 1768, and will consequently in May next complete his 86th year. He fought with great distinction at Waterloo, and lost a leg on that celebrated field.

C. B.—A blazon, or description, in addition to the engraving of the arms in the Obituary, would be but a mere repetition, and would occupy too much room in this paper, where space is so particularly valuable.

THE CENSUS OF 1851.

Now ready,

THE CENSUS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM,

PREPARED FOR THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

COMPRESSING

A COMPARATIVE VIEW OF THE POPULATION

(DISTINGUISHING THE SEXES)

OF EVERY PARISH AND TOWN IN THE EMPIRE IN 1841 AND 1851;

WITH A LARGE ILLUSTRATIVE MAP.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1854.

THE Emperor of Russia and his Chancellor, Count Nesselrode, are unfortunate in the use of the pen. But it is proverbially a difficult thing to make the "worse appear the better reason," and it is not surprising that the Emperor should fail in his logic, or pervert the truth, to serve his own purposes, when he has so bad a cause to defend. The Imperial "Declaration," published in the *St. Petersburg Journal* of the 31st March (a date answering in civilised Europe to the 12th April), is a remarkable document—temperate in its tone, clever in its arguments, hypocritical in its protestations; but false in its assertions, and fallacious in the reasoning based upon them. It purports to be a reply to the declaration of war by the Maritime Powers, upon whom it throws the whole blame and responsibility. The Czar never admits or even seems to reflect upon the notorious fact, that his invasion and occupation of the Danubian Principalities was an act of decided hostility and the real commencement of the war. He states that "he sincerely laments the manifold evils which are about to fall on humanity," but his acts, both of the present and the past time, belie his words. If he had been as

sincere as he pretends, he might long ago have withdrawn, without loss of honour or dignity, from a false and perilous position. If he cannot at the present time retract without self-stultification and dishonour, and without danger to his throne, from the wounded feelings of his humiliated people, the fault is entirely his own, and in no way chargeable upon the Two Governments—which exhausted negotiation as well as patience before they were reduced to the unhappy, though inevitable conclusion, that the Emperor was bent upon his purpose, and would not be deterred from its pursuit, except by the application of a physical force superior to his own. In allusion to the demand made upon him for the evacuation of the Principalities on or before a certain day—fixed by Great Britain for the 30th of April, and by France for the 15th—he asks, "By what right did the Two Powers thus pretend to exact everything from one of the two belligerent parties, without demanding anything from the other?" The obvious reply is that Turkey was wholly in the right; and that Russia was wholly, grossly, and insultingly in the wrong. It was impossible to exact from Turkey anything whatever that Russia had a title to demand. The "Declaration" also alleges that "all honourable retreat was peremptorily cut off for the Emperor by an imperious summons, such as Russia never before received within the whole period of its history;" a fact which is but too true; for it would have been for the advantage of all Europe at the present moment if a summons equally imperious had on another memorable occasion been addressed to it, by Powers able to enforce it. When Poland was partitioned was the befitting time for such a summons to Russia. It is a European misfortune that so gigantic a wrong was permitted. Had it been resisted, the probability is that the ambition of the Czars would have received a check, and that they would never have been in a position to attempt, much less to carry out, a similar design against the Ottoman Empire. But Europe is at last awake to its duty; and if the Czar do not relish the nature of the summons directed to him, he will, it is to be hoped, learn for the future to deserve respect, and not hostility. The "Declaration" accuses Great Britain and France of exaggerating the object of this "disastrous" war by "bringing vague accusations against Russia;" and denies that the Emperor either attacked their "honour" or their "material interests." The accusations brought against Russia are by no means vague; but clear, precise, and tangible. The Emperor's favourite image of the "sick man and his inheritance," and the negotiations he attempted to build upon the state of things thus vividly allegorised, are not vague to the understanding of any man in Europe. If any doubt existed upon the meaning of the Emperor's words, his actions would be far more than sufficient to remove it. The honour of Great Britain and France are, no doubt, intact; and the Emperor, as far as we know, never made any attempt to emperil that of either Power, unless when he conveyed, through Sir Hamilton Seymour, the offer of Egypt and Candia, as bribes, to the English Government, if it would aid him in the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire. As regards the Emperor's denial that he ever attacked the material interests of either Power, the world has only to be reminded of the fact that Russia, contrary to treaty, has blocked up the Sulina mouth of the Danube by its studied and systematic neglect, to see how little truth there is in the Imperial allegation. The Danube is a great artery of European commerce; and if Russia, which is solemnly pledged to prevent it from being silted up, wilfully and maliciously allow sand-banks to accumulate until the only inlet by which merchant vessels can proceed into it from the Black Sea is strewed with wrecks and the remnants of valuable cargoes, he inflicts a material injury upon every commercial nation, and more especially upon Great Britain and France. The Emperor appeals to all Europe against the Two Powers, "to decide if the general equilibrium be really exposed to the dangers which are attributed to it from the alleged excessive preponderance of Russia;" and hints a danger of revolution or insurrection in Lombardy, Hungary, and Germany, to be apprehended from the efforts of the Maritime Allies. The Emperor of Russia deceives himself if he imagines that such arguments will have any weight. The Emperor of Austria must know, by this time, who is the great anarchist and insurrectionist of Europe; and the King of Prussia must be equally aware of the real source of the dangers which menace him. The two great German Powers have signed a treaty of alliance, and whatever side they take, they will go together. The Emperor of Austria is young and able, and surrounded by wise counsellors. He has already taken the auspicious occasion of his marriage to raise the state of siege throughout his dominions, to pardon political offenders, and to show his people that his reliance is not upon Russian bayonets, as in the unfortunate years of 1848 and 1849, but upon the patriotism and affection of his subjects. There are other and more powerful reasons for the belief that the anti-Russian alliance will not long be confined to France and England. With or without the aid of Germany, the Maritime Powers will speedily convince the Czar that he alone is responsible for the war. We wish with all our hearts that he alone might be made to suffer its penalties.

for six years, certain. The price he will accept for the Bonds will not be known till May 2, when no more tenders will be received, and the lowest price declared. Offers will, no doubt, be abundant; but whether they will fall or not within the Chancellor's terms, and whether he will be successful in negotiating the loan, cannot till then be known. That the Government can easily raise twice as large a sum of money is certain; but there is some doubt whether the Chancellor and the public take the same view of the future condition of the Money-market, and regard this new security with equally favourable eyes, and as they agree or differ on these points, he may or may not be successful.

Because the public have regarded the railway debentures favourably, it is supposed that the Exchequer Bonds will be very acceptable to the middle classes; but it is very rare that they take such kind of securities except at second hand: they buy them of bankers and others, who subscribe for them in large sums. Admitting, therefore, that Exchequer Bonds will be acceptable to men of small means and saving disposition, it will not be they but the bankers and other moneyed classes of London—as no lenders below £1000 will be accepted—who will now offer for them, and they will be guided by the value of other securities. For them, an Exchequer Bill at the same rate of interest (3½ per cent) which it now bears, will be more acceptable than an Exchequer Bond; and the Chancellor must put his Bonds at rather a low figure to induce the exchange. His object, in fact, is to take Exchequer Bills out of the market, and to substitute for them Bonds redeemable at distant and certain periods. He advertises expressly for Bills at par, and he requires on every £100 in money 1s. more than on £100 in Exchequer Bills. Should he succeed, the loan thus raised will no doubt be the forerunner of similar loans, for the current service of every year—reducing the number of Exchequer Bills, of which the Government always stands a little in awe, as it may be required to pay them at an inconvenient time—and a new species of Government security payable at fixed times, will get into general use. Then the saving middle classes, and the classes immediately below them, will be very likely to invest £100, £200, or £300 in these Bonds; but, while no less a sum than £1000 can now be tendered for them, the middle classes are not likely to become purchasers. It is quite a fallacy to represent this as a popular loan, like that of the French Emperor. It is both too small in amount, and the smallest sum for which tenders will be accepted is too large, to deserve such a character.

Though the loan is contemporaneous with the beginning of the war, it is not made necessary by any expenses yet incurred on its account. For any that may immediately arise, the Chancellor is authorised to issue £1,700,000 Exchequer Bills, to be redeemed by the increased Property-tax as it accrues. But the Chancellor has appropriated the balances in the Exchequer to pay off dissentients from his plan of conversion, and now finds himself, while unknown demands on account of war are threatening him, with little more than £2,400,000 in hand, including a variety of trust moneys which he cannot touch; while, for many years back, at the same period, the balances have been rarely less than £6,000,000, and generally more. The loan is intended, as has been said, to place the Chancellor of the Exchequer in credit with his banker, or have in the Bank a good available present balance.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. R. Giles to Partney, Lincolnshire; the Rev. C. Hill to Culworth, Northamptonshire; the Rev. F. J. Kitson to Hemycok, near Collumpton, Devonshire; *Vicarages*: The Rev. C. A. Hunter to Tanworth; Rev. T. Robson to Kirkleatham, near Redcar, Yorkshire. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. E. Morgan to Llanychain, near Aberystwith; Rev. G. A. Perryn to Guilden Sutton, Chester.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—The Rev. W. C. Safford, from the members of his congregation, Stevenage, Herts; the Rev. R. N. Featherston, from the parishioners of Christ Church, Accrington; the Rev. R. G. Jeston, from the parishioners of Avon Dassett, Warwickshire.

CHURCH AT ST. MARGARET'S, NEAR RICHMOND.—Representatives having been made to the Executive Committee of the Conservative Land Society of the want of church accommodation in the localities in the vicinity of St. Margaret's, it has been unanimously resolved to set apart a portion of ground on the St. Margaret's-park for the erection of a new church. The piece of land thus apportioned by the committee is close to the Richmond, Twickenham, and Isleworth high road; and the church stands, on the plan of the allotment of the estate, at the junction of the magnificent row of trees called the Avenue, the Allsa and the Cassilis roads. This is the third grant of land within a year for the building of churches, by the Conservative Land Society.

VOLUNTEERING FOR THE NAVY.—The walls at the east end of the metropolis have been covered with placards within the last few days, inviting seamen to enter for the *Algiers*, screw line-of-battle ship, of 91 guns, fitting at Devonport; and the *Gladiator*, steam-frigate, Captain Broke, fitting at Portsmouth—both for service in the Baltic fleet. A large number of ordinary seamen and landsmen offer themselves daily; but, in consequence of the suspension of the order for the entry of landsmen, few are accepted, and these must be ordinary seamen of the first class, competent to steer and take the lead. A number of blue jackets arrive daily by railway from the northern ports and from Liverpool, and are transferred to the various guard-ships for service in the vessels for which they have respectively entered.

DEFENCES OF THE SUSSEX COAST.—Great preparations are being made to place the coast defences in the most satisfactory condition, and two batteries are now in course of erection at the mouth of Littlehampton Harbour, near Arundel. The works are rapidly progressing; and it is said that they will be completed by the latter end of June or the commencement of July. Each battery is being constructed to mount five guns, each gun being capable of discharging a 42-pounder. It is also proposed to erect a spacious barracks near these batteries, for the accommodation of a troop of 50 marines, exclusive of officers, for manning the guns of the batteries.

THE RUSSIAN PORTS ON THE PACIFIC.—The British Government are said to have notified to the United States that they intend to blockade all the Russian ports on the Pacific, and that orders to that effect have already been transmitted. The Russian possessions are very far north, such as Sitka, &c., yet this blockade is likely to affect the pockets of sundry California merchants very seriously. An American company of ample means is said to have just completed arrangements for working the Russian coal mines, and coal is an article of great importance to California, where it brings from 20 to 35 dollars per ton. It is in constant demand, to supply the enormous consumption of the Pacific and river steamers.

APPREHENDED LOSS OF THE "CITY OF GLASGOW" SCREW STEAMER.—The fate of this Liverpool and Philadelphia steamer, so long a missing ship, excites the most painful attention at Lloyd's, where, daily and hourly, anxious inquiries are made by the relatives of the people who sailed in her—numbering in all no fewer than 150. She sailed from the former port on the 1st of last March, since which no tidings have been heard of her. An impression prevails that she has been beset by the ice, large masses of which are known to be drifting about on the banks of Newfoundland and the coast of North America. A New York correspondent, writing on the missing steamer, says an opinion prevails there that she may have been in the ice and damaged her propeller, and stood away for the West India Islands to repair and replenish the stock of provisions and water.



GULF OF FINLAND.

SITUATION OF SVEABORG.

SVEABORG.

THREE miles south-east of Helsingfors, the capital of Finland, rise the threatening walls of Sveaborg; the honour of which gigantic work belongs to Count Augustus Ehrensvärd, who is buried there. The building of the fortress was begun in 1749. With infinite labour, and at the cost of immense sums of money, docks were blown out of the rocks; deep-water channels were filled up, and thus rendered impassable; while walls of granite rose above the barren steeps.

The main fortress stands on five separate islands, viz., Wargön, Stora and Lilla (the Large and Little), Östersvartö, Westersvartö, and Lennan. Close to these lies the Fort of Gustafsvärd, strengthened by all that science can devise, and commanding by its guns the narrow and only inlet for ships of war.

With astonishment the eye rests on those mighty walls and battlements—those wharfs and arsenals, which bear witness to the stupendous exertions which have been lavished upon them. Prisoners from all parts of Finland are confined here, while Russian ships of war are always lying at anchor: some, dismasted, being used as block-ships and dwelling-houses—others in all the proud attire of war. Gardens here and there garland the grey walls with green, but fail to divest the fortress of its sombre aspect.

The loss of Sveaborg may be called the loss of Finland to Sweden; for, as long as that stronghold was in the hands of its rightful owners, they felt secure. But the first tidings of its capitulation fell like a stone on the hearts of the soldiers, and crushed every hope within them. It was on the 8th of May, 1808, that the Russians sang their Te Deum at the grave of Ehrensvärd—that the Swedish flag was struck, and the Russian eagles hoisted in its stead: a dark day in the annals of Swedish and Finnish story!

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

[A portion of the following Letter appeared in our Late Edition of last week.]

SCHUMLA, April 3, 1854.

AFTER leaving Sistova, where the preparations for the advance of the Turks into Wallachia appeared to intimate that the operations carried on there were only part of a plan of general operations, I proceeded to Rustchuk, where, as I had reason to suppose, Omer Pacha intended to effect the passage of the Danube in force. There, indeed, everything seemed prepared. Gun-boats of large dimensions, capable of carrying upwards of a thousand men, were ready for the transport of troops to the other side. His Excellency Ismail Pacha had just been appointed to the supreme command, in place of Halli Pacha; and had made known his appointment to the troops in garrison by the issue of a general order, in which he gave the soldiers to understand that valour alone was not the bond by which an army could be kept together, but discipline, without which no army could exist in time of war. He then, in a series of articles, recapitulated the duties which he considered it incumbent on the men under his command to perform; and he ended by saying that his Excellency Omer Pacha, the General-in-Chief of the Sultan's armies, had recently given a notable example of the fate which might befall officers inattentive to their duty, by dismissing from the service a Pacha, several majors, and other officers, who had been proved to be guilty of conduct unbecoming the high military commands which they filled. Japhir Pacha, an Albanian, who had recently been elevated from the rank of Bey to that of General of Brigade, had embezzled the Imperial moneys, by drawing pay for 2000 Arnaouts, whilst he really had but 400 under his command. Another officer had been dismissed for drunkenness; and the rest for crimes not less unbecoming or contrary to discipline in time of war. Yet, whilst it was evident that active steps were about to be taken against the enemy—whilst 8000 Egyptians were known to be on their way from Schumla, means were not neglected to prevent an attempt, on the part of the Russians, to effect a landing upon the Turkish shore. Not only were the soldiers of the garrison of Rustchuk actively at work in repairing the fortifications of the place, many parts of which were in a state of neglect; but the inhabitants, Turkish as well as Bulgarian, were pressed into the service; and the streets of the town offered the strange spectacle of a deserted city, of which all the shops were shut, and all the trade for a moment brought to a sudden stand. By the help of such vigorous measures, even an unpractised eye could see the speedy progress with which the scarp was disengaged at its base from the loads of earth which in course of time had fallen from the parapet; the embrasures were everywhere made square with blocks of hardened loam; and the ditch itself was

deepened in parts where vegetation had sprung up, and in course of years choked up the space. At the same time several English officers who were in the town were consulted as to the mode of improving the defences, and they suggested various small changes and improvements in the flanking fires of the batteries.

Rustchuk is built in an oval form, and has a ditch and scarp—the former not so wide, the latter by no means so high, as those of the fortress of Widdin; but the natural position of the place—strengthened by a line of forts on the heights behind it, and by outworks on one side—is such as to render the utmost art of fortifications unnecessary. The walls which face the Danube are at a considerable height above the river, and within seven hundred yards of the banks of an island occupied by the Russians. The near proximity of the sentinels and videttes, caused a perpetual fire to be kept up during the day, as the Minic rifle was plied on both sides, sometimes with effect more frequently, however, without success. During a walk which I took with his Excellency Ismail Pacha, and several British officers along the lower batteries, we were more than once fired at; and in one instance, the aim of a Cossack was very near being painfully true. Meanwhile, also, batteries *en barbette*, were built on the plains above and below the town, pierced for eight guns each, and made large enough to contain a strong force. The position of Maritina, twelve miles distant, was fortified; and a fort was built there, containing twelve field pieces, firing from a considerable height, and scouring the plain below and the opposite bank of the Danube.

It so happened, however, that the preparations of the Turks to cross into Wallachia were foiled by the activity of the enemy. Ismail Pacha, who had taken possession of his command in Rustchuk on the 26th of March, was suddenly recalled on the 28th, and on the 29th was on his way to Schumla. There were endless rumours as to the cause of this recall; but there seemed every reason to believe that offensive operations had been put an end to by a movement of the enemy. I left Rustchuk, accordingly, on the morning of the 29th, in company with his Excellency Ismail Pacha. We slept the first night at Bysantz, a small village distant about twenty-five miles from Rustchuk; on the 30th we reached Rasgrad, which we passed at noon; and, spending the night in a village seven miles further on, we arrived in Schumla on the 31st before twelve o'clock. Near Rasgrad we met 8000 Egyptians, under Suliman Pacha, marching back to their old quarters. Although the sun was warm, the wind was cold. For miles along the road were hundreds of arabs drawn by oxen, carrying the provisions and tents of the troops. In front, near Rasgrad, were six heavy pieces, drawn each by six buffaloes, and the ammunition wagons, drawn by four. The sight of these guns, so drawn, appeared to excite the choler of Ismail Pacha. He called upon Suleiman Pacha to know how it was that the guns were not drawn by horses; and why the ammunition wagons, which are heavier than guns, had but two pairs of buffaloes harnessed, whilst the guns had three. The Pacha threw the blame on the Major of Artillery, who said that he had sent the horses on before. Ismail Pacha reproved him by telling him publicly that he was an ass, and no soldier (*askier yok amma eschek*), and rode off, leaving the crest-fallen Major to groan over this public reproof. As I approached Schumla, I perceived how strong as a natural position was that place, which has never succumbed to the Russians in any war. About three miles from the town, we found ourselves at the base of a high and precipitous range of hills, up which our horses toiled for half an hour. Having accomplished the ascent, we entered a pass commanded by several forts, and then slowly descended on the other side; the minarets and houses of Schumla appearing to us at the bottom and on the sides of a deep hollow. The town, in fact, is encompassed by hills, all difficult of access; but, perhaps, less so on the side of Varna. There, however, art has added to the natural strength of the place, and numerous fortifications impede the progress of an enemy.

We were not long in Schumla before we learnt the cause of the retrograde march of the troops and the recall of Ismail Pacha. We were informed that the Russians had crossed the Danube in force at Galatz, and had taken possession of the Dobrudja. This was startling news; but the attention of Omer Pacha had been already attracted, as I informed you, to the concentration of the Russian forces in the direction of Matchin. On the morning of the 4th ult., the corps of General Luder, supposed to be 30,000 strong, effected the passage of the Danube, near Matchin. The Turks had erected a barbette battery of four guns on the island of

Chatalbourun, to which they had access by a bridge of boats. This battery had been erected by the Turks some time before, so secretly, as they conceived, that the Russians knew nothing of it. A battalion had been placed there; and it was supposed that the Russian flotilla might be easily bombarded from that place. The enemy, however, were made aware in proper time of this operation, and he even endeavoured to surprise the place; but, on the first occasion, the attempt was unsuccessful, and the enemy was repulsed. On the 4th of March, however, a large Russian force was embarked before daylight in nineteen gun-boats and two steamers. The island was occupied in every part, the sentries killed, and the bridge of boats communicating with the mainland seized. By this means the unfortunate battalion found itself immediately cut off from all assistance. It was briskly cannonaded from two sides by the Russians, who then endeavoured to storm it. Twice the gallant defenders repulsed the enemy, but at the third charge they were overwhelmed. The Russians entered, and killed or took prisoners the greater part of the battalion. A few men cut their way through, swam over, and got off; the rest were killed or made prisoners. In this desperate affair, the loss on the Turkish side was 640 killed, wounded, and prisoners, and four guns. Among the killed were Ali Bey, colonel; Osman Aga, major; and other officers. The Russian loss it will be impossible to ascertain. It is supposed to have been great.

The passing of the Danube by so large a Russian force of course rendered untenable the positions of Matchin, Isacktschi, and Toutscha. Osman Pacha, in command in Isacktschi, was, it appears, so struck with terror at its advance, that he retreated in a panic without order, and without any plan as to what position he should fall back on. The garrison of Toutscha retired on Varna, that of Matchin on Silistria; the remainder made their way to this place. The greater part of the baggage and ammunition, and all the guns in the positions, were taken off in safety. The places were all subsequently occupied by the Russians, who advanced their Cossacks to Babadagh: it is feared that by this time they have pushed as far as Kustendje and Karasu, Trajan's Wall.

The result of this successful Russian manoeuvre is the complete frustration of the plans of the Turkish Generalissimo. Kalafat, which has been too long occupied by the Turks, and which can serve no purpose, since it is effectually blocked by a small Russian force, must now be evacuated, and the soldiers despatched to Sophia. Widdin, Nicopolis, Rustchuk, and Silistria must be occupied in force, and the remainder of the places along the Danube must be evacuated. That Omer Pacha will do this is, I am told, probable. No one doubts the necessity of such steps; but the Turkish Generalissimo will not abandon without a pang the position of Kalafat, where he has spent so much time, so much money, and so many men.

In a short time 50,000 men will be concentrated in Schumla, and the Turks will remain on the defensive until the arrival of the European forces. The first French division, under General Canrobert, has arrived at Gallipoli. The regiments which form the army are all drafted from Africa, or have at one time or another fought in that country. France has four regiments of *Chasseurs d'Afrique* cavalry: two of those regiments are coming. She has three regiments of Zouaves—men dressed as Turks, and the bravest of her African army: those three regiments are coming. She has one regiment of native Arabs—that has also come. All the officers are the best and the youngest in the army. All this, as well as the English force, will now be necessary to repel the Russians, who are not so easily to be beaten as one may suppose.

Several European officers are here—Colonel Dien, aide-de-camp of General Barsugay d'Hilliers, Colonel Carmon, and Captain Symmons. More are expected. Lieut. the Hon. W. Wellesley, of the Coldstreams; Lieut. Burke of the Engineers, on the staff of General Burgoyne; and Colonel Dickson, Royal Artillery, left Rustchuk on the 28th ult. for Tirnova, to inspect the passes of the Balkans.

It is supposed here, and I believe with reason, that Russia would not have advanced her troops into the Dobrudja, had she not been sure of the support of Austria. The presence of so large a force as that which now lines the banks of the Save. The arrival of their pontoon trains at Semlin, Mytrowitz, and Sabatz, and the imposing army assembled upon the frontier of Transylvania and Wallachia, are also considered as proofs that the intentions of Austria are hostile to Turkey. I have no reason, therefore, to withdraw any of the remarks which I made in my last letters with respect to the position which has been assumed by that Power. So alarmed has the Porte been by the preparations of her neighbours, that she has sent Assiz Pacha, a young but capable man, son of Izet Pacha, commander of the fortress of Belgrade, to sound the Cabinet of Vienna. We shall soon see whether the assertion of Prince Coronini to the Pacha of Belgrade is confirmed, and whether the mighty preparations of Austria are merely for precaution sake or not. Our statesmen, and the press of England, from what I can see and hear of them at this distance, have been fondly hoping that an armed neutrality was the sole purpose of the Imperial German power. I have no such hopes, and I cannot believe that 200,000 men are placed on a frontier merely for the sake of observation.

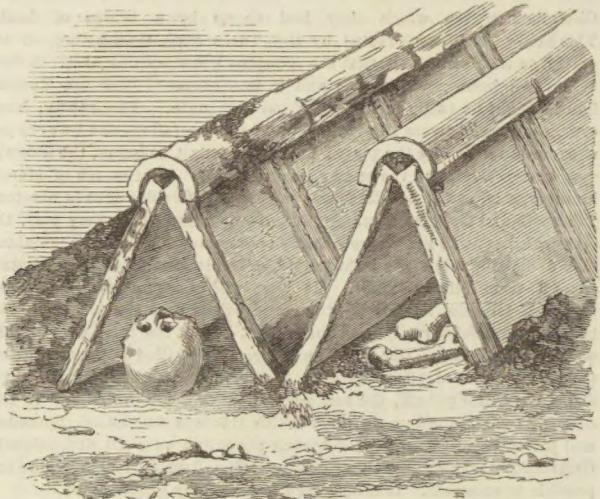


REMAINS OF A ROMAN BUILDING, AT CUMA.

FURTHER DISCOVERIES AT CUMA AND CANOSA.

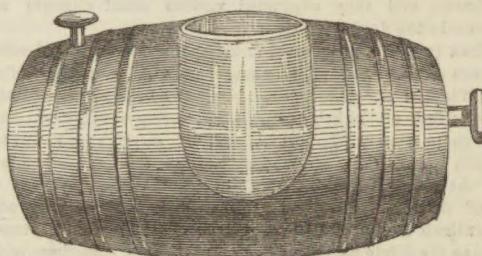
NAPLES, April, 1854.

THE EXCAVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKEN PLACE THIS YEAR AT CUMA AND CANOSA, AFFORD NEW AND INTERESTING MATERIAL WHICH MAY BE TURNED TO PUBLIC UTILITY.



GRAVES OF ROMAN POOR, AT CUMA.

The antiquary of to-day is not the mere collector of objects for the glass-case; we are beginning to copy and adapt to modern purposes and practical uses the arts of the ancients. Classical antiquities, therefore, are likely ere long to become interesting to the manufacturer, and will certainly educate the public mind and improve our taste. The discoveries now in progress at Cumae and Canosa are the more attractive, inasmuch as they represent the best periods in the art history of the world. My present report may be considered as a continuation



GLASS VESSEL, FOUND AT CUMA.

of what has already appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS on the same subject.

It is necessary to remind the reader that Cumae is, perhaps, the most ancient city of the Mediterranean. The roving Phoenicians brought the art and civilisation of the East to Cumae; from which period, up to the time of Lucullus, this city was of considerable importance. Its Necropolis, therefore, records the art and architecture of past centuries.

On my last visit to Cumae I found a group of workmen uncovering a number of Roman graves, evidently of the poorer class. Flat tiles (*tegulae*) leaning on each other, and covered by the *imbrex*, formed a grave (See Illustration). With the skeleton are sometimes found a few terra-cotta vases, but more frequently nothing but the bones of the dead. Whilst sketching, my friend, Mr. Aspitel, the architect, who accompanied me, suddenly disappeared. Presently a boy came running up, and informed me my friend had tumbled down a tomb. On arriving at the spot, I found him safe and sound, engaged in sketching and measuring a large Greek tomb, of which I send you a copy. The roof of this building is most interesting. It is not vaulted or arched; the stones have all a level end, projecting gradually over each other, like the celebrated Treasury of Atreus, till they meet at the top. Nothing of importance was found in this tomb; its chief interest consists in the solid construction of the building. Not far distant is a Roman tomb, with three chambers, and the usual columbaria.

Further on, and some thirty feet below the surface of the earth, workmen were employed in excavating the graves of the earliest settlers at Cumae, which are supposed to be those of the Phoenicians. Occasionally they handed up small terra-cotta vessels, whereon are painted grotesque animals—strange metamorphoses of birds and beasts, such as a naturalist might dream into existence after an uncomfortably heavy supper. I send you a drawing of one of the most remarkable. They are generally from three to eight inches high; the animals are represented in dark red and brown colours, and have a marked Egyptian character. The people whose remains occupy these graves appear to have burnt their dead: you find the urn with burnt bones therein, generally protected by rude stonework. The vases were tributes which accompanied the ashes, and have, no doubt, a religious meaning.

Strolling over the site of this classical city, I came upon a very picturesque farm-house, built on some Roman remains (see Illustration). It was a scene for reflection: a modern house, spliced on to a huge mass of Roman brickwork. An excavator was smoking his pipe very tranquilly, with a number of antique vases at his feet, whilst a pig and a dog were getting up a quarrel in the foreground.

H.R.H. the Prince of Syracuse, at whose expense the excavations at Cumae are carried on, has added some valuable objects to his collection this year: including three noble vases, with wreaths of gilt flowers in relief round the necks of the vessels; carved ivory pins; penates; perfume-boxes; two terra-cotta figures, painted in colours; many small Phoenician pottery, and an endless variety of small objects. The Prince is still carrying on the excavations with much spirit, and thereby increasing the archaeological wealth of the world. I have selected one object for illustration—a curious glass chemical vessel. In the



PHOENICIAN VASE, FROM CUMA.

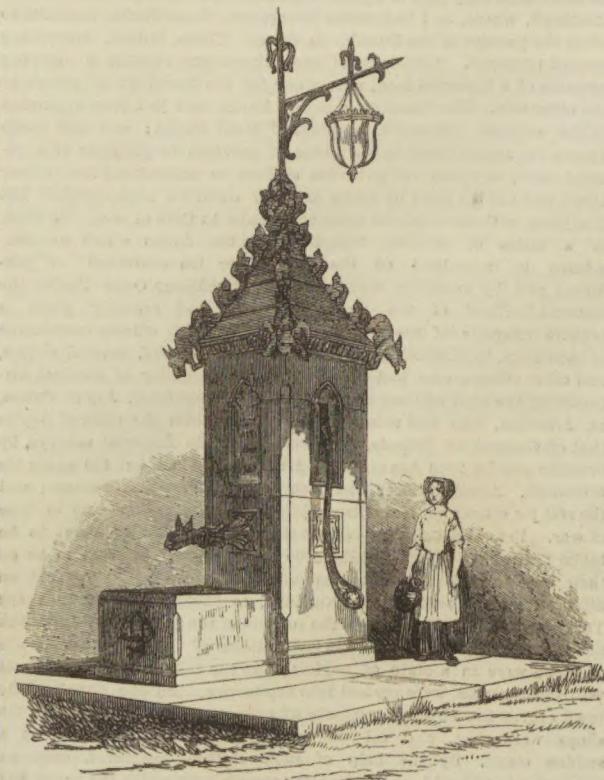
centre is a basin to hold the liquid; with taps, so to speak, at each end of the vessel, for introducing hot water to act on the middle bowl. This object is from a Greek tomb. It is about a foot and a half long, and the largest example of ancient glass yet found.

M. Bonucci, by Royal authority, is continuing his excavations at Canosa. The Necropolis is of far greater extent than was at first supposed, and the tombs lately indicated are on a grand scale. A grave near the northern gate of Canosa has been opened, and found to contain a complete suit of armour. Scattered round the skeleton were many *paterae* and small vases, together with five large vases, not less than five feet high: the drawing of the figures representing some incident of the Greek mythology of the highest order. Indeed, Canosa promises objects of the best period of Greek art.

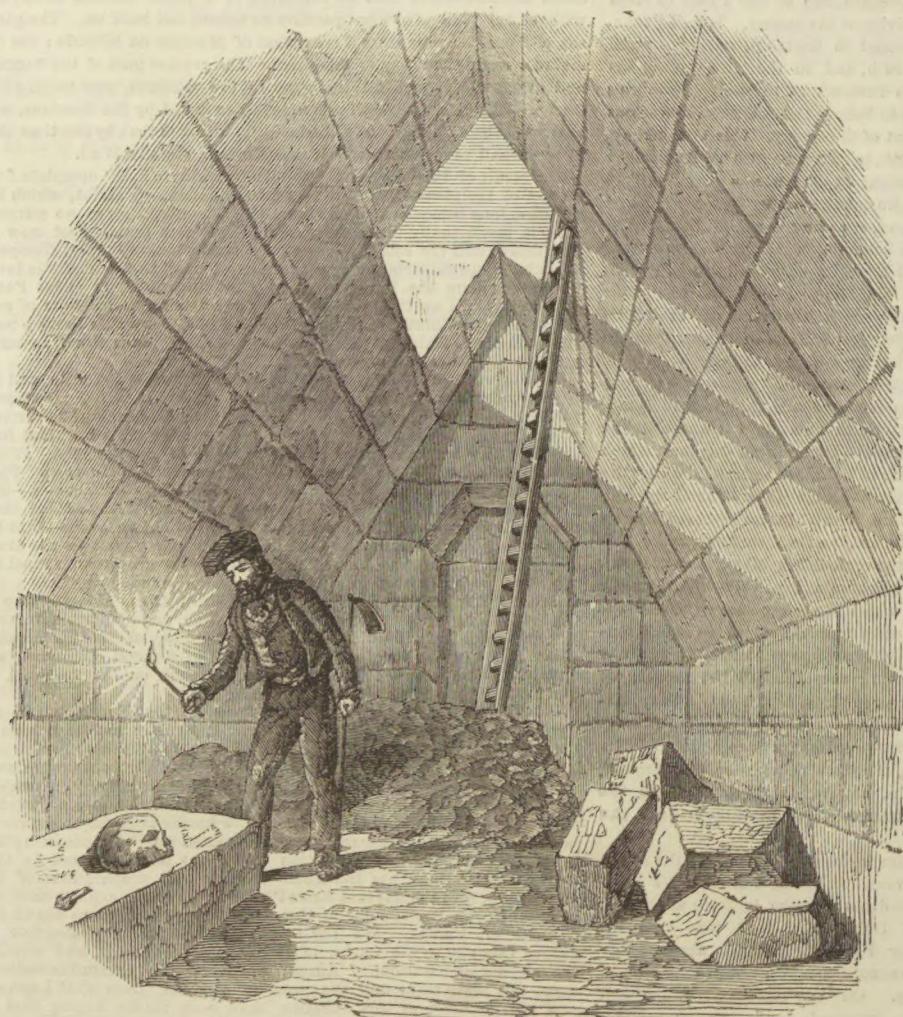
E. N. B.

“THE DRAGON WELL” AT WALTHAMSTOW.

THE SUBJECT OF THIS ILLUSTRATION DERIVES INTEREST, AS WELL FOR ITS RARITY IN MODERN DAYS, AND FOR THE LIBERALITY OF THE DONOR, AS FOR ITS INTRINSIC MERIT AND USEFULNESS. IT HAS RECENTLY BEEN ERECTED ON THE FOREST, AT WALTHAMSTOW, FROM THE DESIGN OF MR. G. E. PRITCHETT, OF BISHOP STORTFORD, ARCHITECT, THROUGH THE LIBERALITY OF A NEIGHBOUR, WHOSE OBJECT WAS TO PROVIDE WITH WATER A POOR NEIGHBOURHOOD HITHERTO UNSUPPLIED. THE WHOLE IS BEAUTIFULLY EXECUTED IN CAEN STONE, BY MR. RATTIE, OF CAMBRIDGE. AN EAGLE’S HEAD FORMS THE SPOUT, AND ABOVE IS AN IRON LAMP, OF PLEASING DESIGN. THE BASIN IS OF OAK, SLIGHTLY ORNAMENTED. IN THE CARVED PANELS IS INSCRIBED:—“JESUS SAID, WHOSOEVER DRINKETH OF THIS WATER SHALL THIRST AGAIN, BUT WHOSOEVER DRINKETH OF THE WATER I SHALL GIVE HIM SHALL NEVER THIRST, BUT THE WATER THAT I SHALL GIVE SHALL BE WELL OF WATER SPRINGING UP TO EVERLASTING LIFE.” UNDER THE CARVED WORK AT THE TOP IS INSCRIBED:—“HO EVERY ONE THAT THIRSTETH, COME YE TO THE WATERS.” THE POPULAR NAME IS DERIVED FROM THE DRAGON SCULPTURE.



PUMP, RECENTLY ERECTED AT WALTHAMSTOW.



INTERIOR OF A GREEK TOMB, AT CUMA.

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

THE Exhibition of the Society of Painters in Water-Colours, for the present year, may be pronounced an unusually attractive one. The landscapes and sea-pieces are of the usual amount and variety; and there is more than the average number of figure subjects, all more or less interesting.

The two places of honour, at the north and south ends of the room, are occupied by group pictures, illustrative of the Royal Sports at Balmoral, by Carl Haag, "Hofmaler" (Anglice, Court Painter) to H.S.H. the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, which will attract more than ordinary attention. The first, entitled "Morning in the Highlands, the Royal Family ascending Loch-na-gar," represents the Queen, with Prince Albert, and the Royal children, seated on their ponies, and scrambling up the steep side of a rugged hill, attended by the usual retinue of gillies, dogs, &c. The Queen occupies the centre of the picture, half way up the pass; the Prince-Consort is on the topmost pinnacle; the younger members of the family, and the attendants, forming a winding train below. The portraits have been carefully studied, and, for the most part, are happy in expression, and considerable ability has been displayed in the arrangement of a rather difficult subject; not, however, without betraying some symptoms of effort. The companion picture, "Evening at Balmoral—the Stags brought Home," represents the arrival of a party of gillies before the porch of the Palace of Balmoral, leading a stout mountain pony, upon whose back the antlered victims of the day have been carried in from the scene of action. The gillies are occupied in unpacking the stags, and casting them to the ground for the inspection of her Majesty and her Court, who, in full evening costume, have apparently just left the dinner-table for the purpose. Prince Albert, in a spirited attitude, lays his hand upon the antlers of a noble stag, which he points out with an expression of pride to the Queen and Prince of Wales. Close behind the Prince stand the Prime Minister and another nobleman; other members of the Royal family, and of the Court circle, complete a very effective group—the scene being illuminated by the glare of torches, which the gillies hold aloft at various points. This is in all respects a more pictorial and effective production than the other. The artistic execution of the details in both is admirable, and the colouring clean and



"HUDIBRAS AND RALPH IN THE STOCKS."—PAINTED BY JOHN GILBERT.

But Hudibras, who scorn'd to stoop
To Fortune, or be said to droop;
Cheer'd up himself with ends of verse,
And sayings of philosophers.

Quoth he, "Th' one half of man, his mind,
Is, *sui juris*, unc infied,
And cannot be laid by the hee's,
Whate'er the other moiety fels."

"Tis not Restraint or Liberty,
That makes men prisoners or free;
But perturbations that possess
The mind, or equanimities"

Quoth Ralph, "How great I do not know
We may by being beaten grow;
But none, that see how here we sit,
Will judge us overgrown with wit."
Hudibras, Part I., Canto 3.

luminous. The "Morning" subject has been painted by command of Prince Albert; the "Evening" by that of her Majesty.

The same artist has several other works, in different styles, and of more or less merit. "The Ruins of the Temple of Vesta, at Tivoli" (82), is sober and delicate in tone. "A Roman Monk—Study of a Head" (114) wants character in the expression, and the roundness and reality of life in the structure of the bust. "Un Campagnole" (181) represents a mountaineer, standing leaning against a pole, and surveying the surrounding country from an elevated spot. Not a badly-painted figure, but very like one which we have seen before, and engraved.

Gilbert has not been idle during the recess; and the result of his labours are such as to support and enhance his well-earned reputation. "The Rosary" (6) is a small study of a female, half-length, kneeling at a *prie-Dieu*, and telling her beads—treated with sobriety of colouring, and a happy freedom from affectation in the expression.

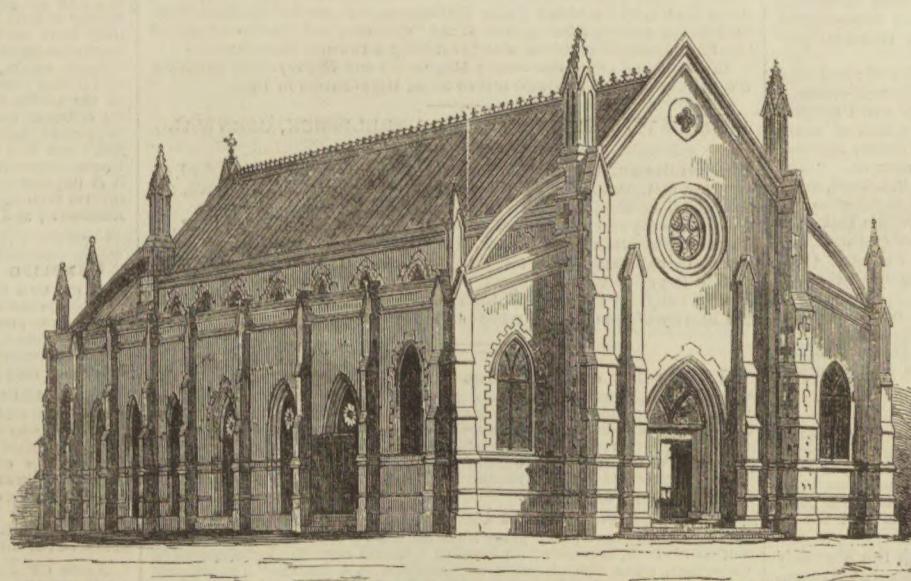
"Hudibras and Ralph in the Stocks" (18) discovers a rich vein of humour, and a nice appreciation of character, entitling the picture to honourable companionship with the same artist's "Sancho Panza," in the British Institution. The colouring is delicately and agreeably balanced.

The work, however, upon which most labour and study have evidently been bestowed is "The Drug Bazaar at Constantinople" (84), which is admirably real. The Bazaar is a long gallery with a vaulted roof, the narrow passage beneath which is flanked with wooden stalls, within which turbaned Mussulmans sit, cross-legged, waiting for custom. The crowd of pedestrians hurrying to and fro in the midst, comprise an endless variety of character, occupation, and costume; amongst which are prominently seen, near the spectator, a Turkish woman of the middle rank, with her black slave, both enveloped in their white veils or *yashmaks*; and an Armenian carpet vendor. But it would be impossible by description to give an adequate idea of the amount of detail crowded into this production, or to do justice to the richness of colouring in which the whole is produced. "A Turkish Water-carrier, Constantinople" (137), is a clever study of a single figure.

"The Witch Acrasia charming her Lover in the Bower of Bliss" (64), by J. Stephanoff, is a florid

NEW CHURCH IN THE PUNJAUB.

THIS edifice, which has recently been erected at Sealkote, in the Punjaub, acquires additional interest from its being the first Protestant church opened in that province, the latest of our Indian acquisitions. The good work was commenced in 1852, when the foundation-stone was laid by the Archdeacon of Calcutta. At this time, only about £600 had been raised by subscription, and there was little hope of aid from the Government, who, however, shortly afterwards, promulgated a wise and comprehensive scheme of church building. For this boon, the European residents are mainly indebted to the advocacy of the present Governor-General of India, who has uniformly evinced a pious sympathy in the work, and largely aided by his own contributions. Assistance has also been derived from unexpected sources. Through the interest of Mr. Inglis, the district officer, the bricks of a ruined little fortress (dismantled on account of the rebellion of its owner, an influential Sikh), were placed at the disposal of the Church-building Committee, in quantities sufficient for the entire structure. Another timely gift was tendered by the Maharajah of Cashmere. Sealkote joins the Jummoo frontier, and Gholab Singh has always manifested a friendly interest in the concerns of the Station. Admiring the exertions of his Christian neighbours in the cause of their religion, this heathen Prince offered gratuitously as much wood and lime as might be needed for the Church; and the offer was thankfully accepted, by permission of Government. It should be explained, that the above materials are extremely scarce in the



CHURCH, RECENTLY ERECTED AT SEALKOTE, IN THE PUNJAUB.

Punjaub, and can only be procured in large quantities from the Jummoo territory; and the wood and lime which the Chief thus generously gave is valued at not less than £1000.

The Church having been completed, was opened by the joint chaplains of the Station, the Rev. C. Sloggett, and the Rev. Cave Brown, on the Sunday before Christmas-day last; and Divine Service is now regularly performed in the sacred edifice. The style of the architecture is Decorated Early English. The windows are filled with stained glass, procured from Delhi. The gabled roof is ornamented with trusses and pendants, coloured in imitation of dark oak; whence punkas (swinging fans) have been suspended. In the aisles are niches and recesses, some of which are occupied by tablets to the memory of those who fell at Chillianwallah and Goojerat. The flooring will shortly be laid with stone to be obtained from the Jummoo territory. A private subscription is in progress for adding a portico, tower, and belfry, with chimes; and one large bell has already been supplied from the Ferozepore foundry.

To adapt the Church to the climate, the clerestory windows are made to open; the aisle windows have only their upper portions glazed, the remainder being filled with Venetian blinds, or, in the sultry season, with "tattas," or wetted grass-mats. There are openings along the ridge piece, and at the ends of the roof.

The Rev. Mr. Sloggett has, with truly pastoral zeal, aided in the good work by collecting subscriptions, and acting as Secretary of the Building Committee. The Church was designed by Lieutenant Harley Maxwell, who superintended the works. The masons and carpenters employed were all natives of the Punjaub, and Sikhs by religion. The accompanying view of the edifice is from a photograph.

affair. Above, in mid air, is a numerous group of nymphs and cupids, very striking as to colour, but inaccurately drawn; below, the lovers sleeping in a bower of roses; the gay plumage of a peacock giving additional brilliancy to the scene.

Miss E. Sharpe produces a touching illustration of womanly weakness, in its weakest point—personal vanity (92). The incident is related in a German romance of the Lady Richildi proceeding to consult the magic mirror, trusting to be assured that she is still the most beautiful woman in Brabant, when the silken curtains draw apart, and present to her view the still more beautiful image of her step-daughter. The uplifted hands, no less than the perturbed features, betray the poor lady's agony of mind.

Jenkins's study, so called, of a "Russian Serf" (97), is rather *couleur de rose*. A female, not ill-looking, apparently well-fed, and of contented aspect, clothed in woollen drapery of coarse material, but gracefully arranged, bears a pitcher of water on her shoulder, in classic attitude; whilst a young, blue-eyed slave—her son, perhaps—frolics near her, smiling, unconscious of the terror of the "protecting" power which rules his after destiny.

"Valentine's Day" (121), by O. Oakley, is a clever production, though we are not quite clear about the story intended to be told. The scene is in a gipsy's encampment; where two young females of the tribe are seated, with valentines, of the transfixed-heart style, open beside them. Their looks evince the mingled surprise and satisfaction which they experience at the perhaps unexpected compliment; whilst an elder female looks on from behind with a mysterious, and not altogether concealed expression.

"The Festival of the Popinjay" (144), by Frederick Tayler, is a large picture, full of figures, illustrative of a well-known passage in "Old Mortality":

The Green Marksman, as if determined to bring the affair to a decision, took his horse from a person who held him, having previously looked carefully to the security of his girths and the fittings of his saddle, vaulted on his back, and, motioning with his hand for the bystanders to make way, set spurs, passed the place from which he was to fire at a gallop, and as he passed, threw up the reins, turned sideways upon his saddle, discharged his carbine, and brought down the Popinjay.—*Vide Old Mortality*, Vol. I., chap. 3.

On the left is Lady Margaret Bellenden, seated erect and stately on her favourite palfrey, and wearing still the widow's weeds which the good lady had never laid aside since the execution of her husband for his adherence to Montrose; next to her, her grand-daughter, the fair-haired Edith—looking like "spring placed close to winter." The lumbering state equipage of "the Duke," so particularly described by Sir Walter Scott, with its jolly-looking occupants, forms a conspicuous object on the left. On the right are troopers, soldiers of the Guards, with their band, &c. The grouping is scattered, but effective; displaying in its several parts a great variety of colours. The same artist has a little picture of a "Highland Shepherdess" (312), which is pretty, but rather formal in treatment.

"St. Patrick's Day in the Morning" (165) and "St. Patrick's Day in the Evening" (224), by H. P. Riviere, are two sketches, not devoid of point and humour, though rather coarsely treated. In the former a raw Irish lad is sallying forth upon the adventures of this adventurous day, his sweetheart fixing a shamrock in his button-hole, exclaiming, "Success to you, Pat," &c., in the words of the song. In the latter, the happy pair are dancing "a tight Irish jig," also according to the song.

"The Top of the Morning to you" (228), by the same artist, is another bit of low life, knocked off without effort at qualification.

"La Cantatrice" (149), by T. M. Richardson, is a window scene, taken from within the apartment, with a lady playing a lute—produced with high finish. The same artist has a larger picture in a very different style, a "View of the Town of Lagonegro, in the kingdom of Naples" (179)—a fine, bold mountain district, with masses of buildings in various parts; executed with a free and feeling hand.

Margaret Gillies has several pleasing female studies, finished with almost miniature delicacy. "The Mourner" (182) breathes a tender sentiment, in harmony with the lines of Tennyson:—

I watch thee from the quiet shore—
Thy spirit up to mine can reach;
But in dear words of human speech
We two communicate no more.

"Listening to the Nightingale" (276) shows us an extremely pretty scene. The lady, its owner, has laid down her guitar, and ceased to sing, whilst she listens to her feathered rival.

W. Hunt has apparently dismissed his well-known ugly boy, who has served him as model for so many humorous sketches, and has adopted a female subject, which he treats with no less piquancy of effect. In "Dishdise" (298) we have a small girl, in a bright spotted frock, seated in a chair, shrugging up her left shoulder, and looking us full in the face, with an awkward mixture of shamefacedness and coquetry.

No. 296 is a study without a title, of a girl looking upward with an earnest and intelligent expression.

On the same screen with the above is another clever study of a similar class, by W. Goodall, entitled "The Lesson" (287). The poor little creature is rubbing her eye, evidently tired of her studies, and anxious to be off to play with her doll.

But it is time we make mention of some of the principal Landscape subjects. Beginning with W. Callow, we have from his pencil a very spirited and truthful view of the fine old city of "Basle" (9), taken from the bridge; and a view of "Eastgate-street, Chester" (43), done in a rich brown tone of shade, on an autumnal evening; "La Place d'Armes," at Lille (77); and other architectural subjects.

John Callow produces several capital sea-coast views; amongst others, "Yarmouth," and "Mount St. Michael, Cornwall," besides some genuine shipping pieces. In the "Fleet at Spithead, July 28, 1853" (51), the effect of the rays of the setting sun upon the sails which hang lazily from the cross-trees, is bright, aerial, and cheerful. "Shipping on the Humber, Hull" (119), is executed in a good healthy tone of colouring; the tiny steam-tug, with her bright yellow paddle-boxes, forming the centre light, with novel effect.

Copley Fielding has numerous specimens, but of unequal merit; some of them betraying hasty execution. "Langdale Pikes, near Ambleside, Westmoreland" (10), is rather cottony in appearance. "The Cliffs of Folkestone" (19) is an effective view, with Shakespeare's Cliff in the distance. The "View over Menteith to the Highlands near Stirling" (30), "Over the Clyde from near Greenock" (39), and of "Glen Lochy, at the Head of Loch Tay, Perthshire," are conscientiously and successfully executed. In the last-named the arrangement of the plane in the foreground, with mountainous background, is picturesque. "A View of Snowdon" (101) must also be mentioned with praise.

Mr. W. C. Smith has a fine view, upon a large scale, and elaborately treated, of the "Bay of Uri, Lake of Lucerne" (61), taken from near Tell's Chapel—the romantic character of this celebrated mountain gorge being well presented; and the reflection of distant snow-capped glaciers in the water evincing observation and much technical proficiency on the part of the artist.

E. Duncan comes before us with some admirable studies of rural and coast scenery, many of them including appropriate incidents of domestic and industrial pursuit. "A Winter's Morning" (32) is a real English farming scene: a gate open between two fields, with a flock of sheep coming through towards the spectator; in the distance a village; the tone, notwithstanding the snow on the ground, warm and transparent. "The Vracking Harvest, Guernsey" (40), and the "Carting Sea-weed, coast of Guernsey" (42), are representations of an industry peculiar to the Channel Islands; and the composition in both—the materials including cattle, carts, and groups of peasantry—exhibit much animation. The atmosphere is liquid and genial. "A Hay Barge off Purfleet" (253) and "A Calm, Vessels off Northfleet Creek" (356) are characteristic sketches of objects nearer home.

J. Whichelo, amongst other coast and sea pieces, has one of peculiar historic interest, viz.—"The British Fleet, under command of Sir C. Napier, entering the Baltic, 1854." The morning is foggy, and the fleet are in close order, the flag-ship signalling to the rest. Success and honour attend them!

NEW PALACE AT BALMORAL.—The new buildings in course of erection at Balmoral are rapidly progressing. The portion including apartments for the Princesses, Ministers of State, visitors, &c., has been roofed in, and the first story of the principal state-rooms has been built. The building will be fire-proof, patent malleable iron beams being used. A portion will be finished in course of next autumn, but it is not intended that any part shall be inhabited during the present year.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH TO BALMORAL.—Through the liberality of Prince Albert—whose example in contributing £200 towards the extension of the electric telegraph to Aberdeen has been followed by the merchants and manufacturers of that city—there is now a certainty that the telegraph will be erected in the course of the present summer. The directors of the Dee-side Railway Company are to have the telegraph extended to Banchory, and, as the distance thence to Balmoral is only about thirty miles, it is intended, we believe, to lay a wire to Balmoral, so that the Court may be in immediate communication with London.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ACCOMMODATION FOR OUR TROOPS ABROAD.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH called the attention of the Government to a statement made by a correspondent of one of the morning papers, to the effect that no preparations had been made for the proper reception of our troops upon their arrival at Malta or Gallipoli, and that they were consequently exposed to much privation and inconvenience.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said he was happy to be able to give the statement a most complete contradiction. So far from the troops having suffered from the want of due preparations, in the places referred to, the most satisfactory arrangements for their reception were made both by our Consuls and Commissary officers.

The Earl of HARDWICK reminded the Earl of Clarendon that the statement he had made on a former evening in respect to the movements of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, was completely contradicted by an official statement recently published by the Russian Government in the *St. Petersburg Journal*, by which it appeared that the Russian fleet had been scouring the Black Sea, and had conveyed troops from various forts on the Circassian coast to Sebastopol, with the view of strengthening that garrison.

The Earl of CLARENDON said that he had made the statement upon the authority of a despatch received from Admiral Dundas, which statement he believed to be correct. The facts were these. An English steamer which had been sent to survey the Circassian coast observed four small Post-office steamers of Russia employed in conveying some troops from a few small forts on the coast which had been dismantled and destroyed. When those steamers saw the English vessel, they immediately made for the nearest Russian port, having been pursued for a time by the English steamer. That circumstance, however, took place on the 16th March, and war was not declared until the 29th: so that it was impossible that the English steamer could act otherwise than it did.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE hoped that all the despatches received upon the subject would be immediately placed upon the table of the House, inasmuch as the Russian Government had published an official statement which differed widely from that of the noble Earl. Although the formal declaration of war had not been made at the time alluded to, yet a declaration of war had virtually been made previous to that date, by the fact of our Government having sent a message to the Governor of Sebastopol to keep the fleet in harbour, for, if the ships were seen in the Black Sea, the British fleet would either compel them to return to port, or would destroy them. He (the noble Marquis) thought that our power in the Black Sea would have been greatly increased if our fleet had destroyed these forts on the Circassian coast, instead of permitting the Russians to have done so (Hear, hear).

The Earl of CLARENDRON consented to the production of the despatches.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

On the motion of Mr. HAYTER, a new writ was ordered to be issued for Flintshire, in the room of the Hon. Mr. Mostyn, who, since his election, has succeeded to the Peerage.

Mr. RICH gave notice that on Tuesday next he would call attention to the conveyance of the civil and military servants of the Government to the East.

Mr. PACHE gave notice that, on Tuesday, the 9th of May, he would call attention to the question of Church rates.

In answer to a question from Mr. M. Gibson, Lord J. RUSSELL said, that, at present, he was only informed that the goods of Sir H. Seymour would not be allowed to be taken from St. Petersburg; but he would soon give a more definite answer to the right hon. gentleman.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

On the motion that the Speaker do leave the chair for the House going into committee,

Mr. HEYWOOD moved that the bill be committed to a select committee. The hon. gentleman said that the Universities had ceased to be national institutions, and, like all monkish foundations, required extensive reformation. He complained that the private tutors, on whom really devolved the work of education, were not recognised in the bill, as he thought that where they possessed the requisite learning and ability, they should be eligible to Professors' chairs. Brasenose College was, in a great measure, connected with the county of Lancaster; and in the case of what was called Hume's Trust, the value of the property originally bequeathed for it being greatly increased, about £60,000 was collected, with which it had been expected that new scholarships would have been created; and the authorities of Brasenose would not allow of it, but insisted that the money should be expended in the purchase of Church livings. He was opposed to the system of granting scholarships and fellowships to persons of particular counties, and to the practice of compulsory ordination. Unjust as was the exclusion of the Dissenters to the great body of the people, it also acted injuriously to the Universities themselves, which would, on the contrary, be greatly benefited by a free and open election of the University officers.

Mr. NEWDIGATE thought that a great number of the members present were not acquainted with the constitution of the University of Oxford or with the nature and extent of the privileges of which it was now sought to deprive it. The hon. member read the recent protest against the bill, which he said had been signed by 500 members of the University.

In the course of the discussion, Mr. DISRAELI said that, inasmuch as a much more important measure of reform had been postponed, he saw no reason why this lesser reform should not also be postponed.

The House having divided, the numbers were—For going into committee, 172; against it, 90: majority for going into committee, 82.

The committee was then proposed.—Adjourned.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

WILLIAM ACTON, ESQ., LATE M.P., OF WEST ASION, CO. WICKLOW.

THE death of Lieut.-Colonel Acton, for several years the respected Knight of the Shire for the county of Wicklow, occurred on the 10th instant, at his seat, West Aston. He had attained the age of sixty-five.

Colonel Acton was son of the late Thomas Acton, of West Aston, and grandson of William Acton, Esq., by Jane Parsons, his wife, granddaughter of Sir William Parsons, Bart., of Birr Castle, King's Co. His elder sister, Anna-Maria, who married Major Warburton, was mother of Eliot Warburton, the accomplished author of the "Crescent and the Cross," and of the Rev. Acton Warburton, also favourably known to literature.

The deceased gentleman was a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for the County of Wicklow, and served as its High-Sheriff in 1820.

JOHN DAVIES GILBERT, ESQ., OF TRELISSICK, CORNWALL, AND EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THIS gentleman, one of the co-heirs of the Barony of Sandys, died on the 16th inst., in his forty-third year, at Prudeaux-place, Cornwall, the seat of his brother-in-law, Mr. Prudeaux-Bruno.

He was only son and heir of the late Davies Gilbert, Esq., M.P., of Tredrea, who attained so high a reputation in science and antiquities, and eventually succeeded Sir Humphry Davy in the President's chair of the Royal Society. It was through his grandmother, Catherine Davies, daughter and heir of John Davies, Esq., that the co-heirship to the Barony of Sandys descended to the family.

DEPRESSION OF THE FLAX TRADE.—In consequence of the war with Russia, most of the flax mills in Scotland are going on short time. The manufacturers have more orders than they can execute, but for some time to come, until supplies are obtained from other quarters than those hitherto chiefly depended on, they cannot execute them. In consequence of this stoppage in the supplies of flax by Russia, farmers are laying themselves out for growing it at home, where, at one time, it was a profitable crop.

THE TIME FOR TAKING CRONSTADT.—The following story is told by the *Presse*:—Some years since the Emperor Nicholas, acting himself as *cicerone*, conducted an English Admiral over the fortifications of Cronstadt, when the following conversation took place:—"You will admit, Admiral, that this is a magnificent fortress, and as impregnable as Gibraltar?" "Oh, sire, no fort but Gibraltar is impregnable." "What, then, is your opinion of Cronstadt?" "It is a good fortress, and one difficult to take." "Yes, doubtless, difficult." "It could not be done with fifteen ships." "Could it be done with twenty?" "Not easily." "With twenty-five?" "It would take a fortnight." "With thirty-five?" "Oh, your Majesty, fifteen hours!"

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
Apr. 21	29.440	71°8	53°0	58°8	+ 11°6	78	E.N.E. 0.01
" 22	29.373	52°0	46°9	46°5	- 1°0	93	E.N.E. 0.37
" 23	29.827	47°5	39°0	41°3	- 6°5	76	N.E. 0.00
" 24	30.282	52°2	32°0	41°7	- 6°5	68	N.E. 0.00
" 25	30.392	52°0	27°5	40°3	- 8°2	69	N.E. 0.00
" 26	30.357	56°8	39°0	46°3	- 2°5	85	N.E. 0.00
" 27	29.913	55°5	42°0	47°7	- 1°5	92	N.E. 0.12

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign - below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29.53 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.44 inches by the morning of the 22nd; increased to 30.44 inches by the morning of the 23rd; and decreased to 29.85 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.93 inches.

The mean daily temperature was below the average on every day, except on the 21st, when it was 55° nearly, exceeding the average by 12° nearly. It fell to 44° on the 22nd, to 41° on the 23rd and 24th, and to 40° only on the 25th.

The mean temperature of the week was 46°10, being 2°10 below the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 44°30, being the difference between the highest reading of the thermometer (71°80) on the 21st, and the lowest (27°50) on the 25th. On this day the lowest reading of the thermometer, placed on grass, was 13°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 16°40. The least was 5° on the 22nd; and the greatest 24° on the 25th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of half an inch.

The weather throughout the week has been dull, and the sky has been mostly overcast. The wind has been almost constantly from the N.E. quarter, and blowing hard.

Lewisham, April 28th,

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

We were pleased the other day with the poetical and retrospective turn given to the present war by a distinguished English author. "This is not the first time," said our friend, "that the English will have fought on the banks of the Danube."

Illustrous youths that left their native shore
To march where Britons never marched before."

The great Duke of Marlborough carried our arms to the banks of that celebrated river, and won victories for us—happy preludes, I believe, of what the coming campaign will be a more distant portion of the same stream. Addison, in his beautiful poem of "The Campaign," has much that is applicable to the present juncture. What was true of Queen Anne is equally true of Queen Victoria:

To Britain's Queen the nations turn their eyes;
On her resolve the Western world relies;
Confiding still, amid its dire alarms,
In Anna's councils and in Churchill's arms.
Thrice happy Britain, from the kingdoms rent
To sit the guardian of the Continent.

It is as guardian of the Continent that this very war is entered upon by Great Britain. Nay, what was true of Louis XIV., is equally true of the Emperor Nicholas:

Deluded Prince! how is thy greatness crost,
And all the gaudy dream of emp're rest,
That proudly set thee on a fanned throne,
And made imaginary realms thy own!
Thy troops, that now behind the Danube join,
Shall shortly seek for shelter from the Rhine.

Parallels are not always exact; but there is much in Addison's poem that may be applied to the present moment.

The author of "Pelham" and "My Novel" has been delivering a lecture at St. Albans, on the "Literary Associations of Hertfordshire." Sir Edward is a well-read man, and Knebworth is one of the finest seats in the county to which his lecture related; but, strange to say, Sir Edward has missed two of the most attractive points connected with places particularly referred to in his lecture. When mentioning Hitchin, he did not tell his hearers that old George Chapman, the translator of Homer, is called by Brown, the pastoral poet—

The learned shepherd of fair Hitchin-hill.

When alluding to Hatfield, he should have remembered that in the church (so well seen from the rail) lie the remains of Richard West, the correspondent of Gray, and the most promising of all our young scholastic poets. Hertfordshire, we may observe, is particularly associated with Lord Chancellors. Here was one of Wolsey's seats; at Gorhambury Bacon lived; Somers had a house within its boundaries; and Panshanger was the property and residence of Lord Chancellor Cowper.

We are glad to observe that a subscription is on foot for the purpose of erecting a statue in Edinburgh to the memory of Professor Wilson. It is undecided yet whether the statue shall be in bronze or marble, but it is settled that it is to form "an ornamental object in some prominent station in Edinburgh. As, in every public subscription, so much depends on the activity of the secretary, we are pleased at finding that Mr. Robert Chambers is already at work in that important office. We have no fear about the complete success of the subscription.

There is nothing, it is said, more remarkable in literature at the present juncture, than the unanimity of the press, in the prophyty of the war. Pamphleteers were divided on the prophyty of the campaigns of the Duke of Marlborough and Lord Peterborough. When Walpole was at peace—poets and prose writers incited him to war—Pope, Johnson, Akenside, and Thomson were all for a time—

When Spain shall rob and France insult no more.

If we refer to publications of the period of the American war, or newspapers referring to what is called "the last war," we see, at every turn, how faction was divided, and how hot party spirit ran, both in print and in the House. Now our writers are unanimous, that our present war is a wise and necessary proceeding.

We are assured by Mr. Panizzi, in his report on the Library of the British Museum, just presented to the House, that "the necessity for the steps taken to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Copyright Act has been strikingly proved by the results." During the year 1851 publishers, who were in arrears, were requested to forward the books due from them, but no proceedings, Mr. Panizzi informs us, were taken, and the number of articles received was 9871. When, in 1852, proceedings were taken, the number of articles received rose to 13,934. During the past year the number has further increased to 14,081. But as this, we are told, includes the receipt of arrears from the country, from Scotland, and from Ireland, it cannot be expected that the numbers should be so high in future. "But," concludes Mr. Panizzi, no doubt with an eye to Mr. Bohn, "a considerable increase upon the previous years may be looked for, now that it is well understood that the provisions of the Copyright Act will be steadily enforced."

People are talking about the elections, on Thursday last, into the Royal Society. It was once an honour to belong to that learned body. Only really eminent persons were members. Like other institutions, it became sadly abused. Candidates of every complexion were admitted to (what Pope calls)—

Shine in the dignity of F.R.S.

Sir Joseph Banks was, it is said, too good-natured; Sir Humphry Davy, too inattentive; Mr. Davies Gilbert, too idle; the Duke of Sussex, too stupid; the Marquis of Northampton, too indulgent; as Presidents; and now we are told the Earl of Rosse is too strict. There are more candidates of distinction on the list than the law, on Thursday last, would allow to be admitted. Candidates, we are told, will be excluded of greater merit than hundreds already within the Society. We do not care for this. It was wrong to admit anybody on anybody's recommendation. As these unworthies die out you will be able to admit more worthies in. The distinction of belonging to such society chiefly consists in the rarity of the distinction. If the Order of the Garter was as common as the Order of the Bath, it would be less coveted than it is at present. When we see the letters R.A. attached to an artist's name, we know that he is one of forty chosen by his brethren in art, after a long knowledge of his works; but when we see the letters F.R.S., we find that we have no other present notion attached to this combination of letters than that the person is respectable, on a scale one degree higher than the famous "gig" principle of recognition.

MILITIA EVENING SCHOOLS.—THE WEST NORFOLK REGIMENT.—At a time when it is not improbable that the services of the Militia may be required, it is gratifying to know that, in several districts, much interest is taken in the moral welfare and mental improvement of the men. The West Norfolk corps, mustering 960 strong, are now in course of training at Norwich; and we learn, from a programme, that evening schools have been organized, and that lectures and concerts, and reading-room have been provided, to afford the men every opportunity of receiving instruction and rational amusement during their stay in Norwich. The arrangements have originated, and have been conducted by the Rev. Dr. Beal, a clergyman in the neighbourhood, who has, for many years, devoted himself to the promotion of adult schools for the working classes, and taken an active interest in the popular institutions of the above city. A series of lectures was arranged, last year, by this gentleman, for the West Norfolk Regiment, in which, Professor Sedgwick and others, were his coadjutors; and the efforts of these gentlemen are stated by the commanding officer to have been materially conducive to the good conduct of the men under his command. Attempts are being made, to ensure the formation of a lending library, to be permanently connected with the regiment. We have pleasure in recording these facts, as they furnish an example worthy of being imitated by the clergy, and others, in the different districts in which the Militia may be quartered.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. A., Chester.—The "stifled mate" is not so uncommon in actual play as you suppose; and the example sent is useless, for Black throws away an easy winning game, by playing his Queen to Q Kt 7th, instead of giving the obvious check with her at K B 5th. E. C.—We shall willingly lend you every assistance in our power; but your endeavours are not likely to be advanced, nor our readers edified, by the publication of such a game as that received.

F. S. A. I. It is a copy of the ancient MS. work on Chess by Jacobus de Cessolis—one of which may be found in every great library of Europe. 2. For an account of the magnificent set of chess-men said to have belonged to Charlemagne, which were preserved at the Abbey of St. Denis, near Paris, see the "Archæologia," vol. xxv.

M. de R., Cirque des Echecs, Paris.—A private communication was forwarded ten days since.

J. D., of Bruges.—No. 1. admits of an easy mate in three moves. No. 2. is neat and ingenious, and shall appear shortly.

A. F., of Florence.—Problems (via Genoa) safely received, and very acceptable.

ANDREW, T.—The New Series of the *Chess Player's Chronicle* began last year. Your best course is, therefore, to commence with that Volume, and order the Monthly Numbers for this year to be sent as they come out.

IGNOTUS, Clifton.—The Solution of Enigma No. 500 appears to be—1. R takes Q P, and then discovering Checkmate by playing the Kt to K 6 h, or Q Kt 3rd, according to which of the Rooks Black takes. 2. Your solutions are all wide of the mark.

SIGNORE D., ROME.—See our notice below to "Foreign Correspondents." Two letters addressed to you remain unanswered, through the Dead Letter Office, and it is desired to write again until you favour us with a more prompt address.

J. E. H., STUTTGART.—1. The communication sent to you has been returned. "Stuttgarit" is too vague a direction. 2. Problem 529 cannot be solved in four moves.

F. K., of B.—1. To do away with all doubt on the subject of the integrity of Mr. Healey's fine Problem, No. 529, it has been suggested that a White Pawn should be added at White's K B 5th square.

It appears to us that this slight addition will make the stratagem perfect.

2. We are compelled to publish the solutions by Correspondents as they reach us—those sent first appear first.

OLD FIESCHER.—There is but one St. George's Chess-club in London. This Club is at No. 53, St. James-street. Candidates for admission should apply by letter, addressed "to the Committee of the St. George's Chess-club." The whole of the noblemen and gentlemen you name are members.

OKDO.—1. Those positions are best which most resemble actual end-games. 2. Your attempted solution is quite a failure; by your line of play the mate might be protracted indefinitely.

E. P. T.—Accept our warmest acknowledgments of your attention.

J. T. Y., Canterbury.—It shall be examined.

MEDICINE.—It is highly creditable to your specimen. The second has been written down so carefully, as to doify all our attempts to trace the moves.

M. T. VINCENZO.—We are glad to hear that our suggestion respecting the introduction of a Chess column in "L'Illustration" of Paris, has not been without effect; and that the proprietors of that Journal have made arrangements with M. de Rivière, the Honorary Secretary of the Paris *Cirque des Echecs* for a weekly supply of Chess matter. We have no doubt this arrangement will be alike beneficial to the periodical itself, and to the interests of Chess in France.

A. K., AMERSHAM.—A player cannot castle after moving his King.

G. G. C.—It shall be reported on next week.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 529, by F. R., of B.; W. Grimshaw, S. S. A.; A. H., of Bradford; P. Q. R., R. W. B., Gamma, Subaltern, Derevon, Arnald, Villikene, Munro, J. B. P., are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 530, by Agnes; F. R., of B.; R. Puff, Derevon, Liverpool; A. H., of Bradford; J. T. C. Ryde; Burw, Ignoramus, Sub, are correct.

* * * TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.—We request the attention of Correspondents from abroad to a remissness on their parts, which subjects us to a good deal of needless expense, and them to much disappointment. We allude to their invariable practice of sending us only a general address, as "Paris," "Iome," "Florence," "Genoa," "Stuttgart," &c.; the consequence of which is that three letters out of four so directed by us, are, after a delay of months in the Foreign Post-offices, returned to London. Every communication sent to us which requires a private acknowledgement should be accompanied by an exact and un-mistakeable address, including both the name of the street and the number of the house in which the writer resides.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 529.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R takes Q B P	R takes Kt or	3. P to K B 8th (be- R takes it (best)	
(a)		coming a Kt)	
2. Q to K Kt 8th	B to K Kt 2nd	4. Q to Q B 4th (ch) It takes Q	
(best)		5. Kt to K 6th—Mate.	

(a) 1. Q takes Kt
(The variations on Black's first move are too numerous for us to give.)
2. Q to K H sq
Kt to Q 4th

3. Q to K Kt 2nd (ch)
4. Q to Q R sq (ch)
5. Q to Q H 7th—Mate.

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FORT JOUABS, ON THE BLACK SEA.—BLOCKHOUSES ON FIRE.

A CRUISE IN THE BLACK SEA.

(From a Correspondent.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 21, 1854.

We have just returned from a very interesting cruise in the Black Sea, rounding the coast of Georgia and Circassia, to reconnoitre the Russian forts; and, as it is the first time that coast has been visited by an English man-of-war, I send you few details.

We left Beicos on the afternoon of the 9th, with the French steamer *Cacique*, under our orders; and we having on board Capt. Brock, the surveyor, a civil engineer, Lieutenant Strutton, and Mr. Elcock, chief engineer, who had formerly been in the Russian service, and knew the coast well. We got to Sinope at 12 p.m., on the 10th; it was in just the same state as when we were last there. We went on, touching at Trebisond and Batoum, but heard no news of consequence; and on the morning of the 14th, found ourselves off the Russian fort, called Redoubt Kaled. We went in close enough to make observations; when the Russians all ran to their guns, evidently not knowing what to make of it; but as they none of them pointed seaward, it was not very formidable. We next got to Soukum Kaled, where there are a good many soldiers who have wooden barracks above the fort; they also ran down to their fort on seeing us, but they let us pass quietly. I have no time to go regularly all through the forts; but, on the 15th, off Cape Constantine, we saw a Russian steamer, which immediately turned, and ran off as hard as she could. On our nearing the next fort, we perceived four steamers (Russian) blowing off their steam. We cleared all ready for action, and I think we could have managed them, but they again got under way, and crept up under the guns of the fort. The next fort (Golovin) we were surprised to find in flames. The Circassians, who had fired, and were plundering it, ran up the hill on seeing us, but returned when they made us out friends. I enclose you a Sketch which may give you an idea of the place. After we had passed on, we heard a tremendous explosion, we supposed a magazine. As we proceeded, we saw several Russian vessels, and one steamer towing a transport, which seemed full of troops. As soon as they perceived us, the steamer dropped the poor transport and made off. We boarded the transport, and learnt she was taking troops to Gelenjik. The Russians had evacuated Golovin; and the Cir-

cassians immediately came down and burnt it. We went on to Jouabs, about the best fort we had seen. Here the Russians were on the beach, in heavy marching order, waiting to embark in transports; and we observed a number of Circassians on the heights above, evidently waiting their departure to burn the fort. They had already set two block-houses outside on fire. In the evening we arrived off a fort, of which only the blackened and smouldering ruins remained, the Circassians plundering as usual. We anchored there for the night; and Captain Brock went on shore to learn any news. They told him the Russians were evacuating all the forts, except Gelenjik, where they were concentrating their troops, and making stronger fortifications; and they (the Circassians) made an offer that if two of our steamers would attack it by sea, they would at the same time by land, which terms we could not agree to, as war had not been declared. We proceeded to Gelenjik, which did not appear nearly so strong as we had expected. At Soudjak Bay, the next fort, we saw a little steamer coming out; but on sighting us, she turned and beat a retreat to the fort at the head of the bay. Anapa was our last station, the fort there (more formidable than any we had previously seen) is situated on a cliff, with the guns pointing right over it.

We coasted along the Crimea, passing Cape Aitodoro, called the garden of Russia. Here are some magnificent palaces, Prince Woronzoff's amongst the best. We passed about thirty miles from Sebastopol, and steered straight for the Bosphorus, where we arrived on the 10th; and, after communicating with the Admiral, proceeded to Constantinople, where we are now coaling, with a brig on each side.

I should add that the forts are, for the most part, of a rectangular shape, with two square and two round towers at the corners, the walls between loopholed, and the barracks generally inside. Most of them have a number of poplar trees inside. The houses are built of wood, with shingle roofs, painted either slate colour or bright green. The native villages are curious; you can hardly distinguish them; they are so much the colour of the earth, being built of clay and thatched. The Circassians have very fine horses, and we saw them galloping along the beach. Their dress is a sort of brown tunic, fastened round the middle; leggings; the cap the same as the Russians' (with the exception of the conical top), is made of fur. They are armed with rifles and knives, and I have no doubt can use them well. The weather the whole time was beautiful, and the view of the mountains of the Caucasus, covered with snow, was very fine.

MEDALLION OF CHEVALIER BUNSEN, BY ALEXANDER MUNRO.
(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

FORT GOLOVIN, ON THE BLACK SEA, ABANDONED BY THE RUSSIANS, AND BURNT BY THE CIRCASSIANS.



SCENE FROM "MATILDE DI SHABRAN," AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The Illustration represents the scene in the opera of "Matilde di Shabran," which forms the finale to the first act. The scene is in the hall of Corradino's castle, when the hostile rencounter is about to take place between that chief and the young Edoardo, who seeks to free his imprisoned father. On the left, Corradino (Lucchesini) is receiving his arms from the hands of his mistress; and the ridiculous poet Isidore (Ronconi), grotesquely armed, is beating a drum to animate the soldiers. They are confronted, on the other side, by Edoardo (Mdile. Marai), the Countess d'Arco (Albini), and Raimondi (Polonini). The soldiers on each side are ranged in the background. The figures are all portraits.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

MR. PLANCHE'S "Revue" and Mr. Buckstone's "Voyage" meet, we are happy to find, with the success fairly earned by the elegance of the composition and the costly style in which the pictorial and scenic accessories are placed on the boards. The mind is carried through the events of the year by a series of significant symbols, skilfully chosen, and accompanied by remarks in the dialogue—not only witty but wise, calculated to instruct as well as amuse. One of the brilliant scenes in the piece we have selected for the above Illustration. The worthy manager is supposed to have traversed Europe. Crossing the Dardanelles, he continues his journey by the Overland route to Asia, whose

Divinity discloses herself to his enraptured view, in the manner delineated in the picture. The opportunity for the introduction of "a Grand Oriental Spectacle" is naturally seized; and the Dance of the Bayaderes exhibits to great advantage the attractions of the *corps de ballet*, and the skill of Miss Lydia Thompson and Miss L. Morris. It is in creating such opportunities, and in skilfully improving them, that the merit of this peculiar sort of drama consists. The scale and extent of the illustrative decorations depends on the liberality of the management; and it may be truly asserted that Mr. Buckstone has very judiciously spared no reasonable expense in making the spectacle most ornamental and effective. Of the continued success of such a piece there can be no doubt; one which, pleasing as it is to the eye, has also mental allurements that distinguish it even among Mr. Planche's productions, which in most instances are classical in their finish, and, as in this, as remarkable for the intellectuality of their aim as for the beauty of their appointments.

SADLER'S WELLS.

This theatre, for the summer season, has been placed under the management for the performance of vaudevilles and the lighter class of modern pieces; "The Times," as produced at the Olympic, being among the number. The comedy of "Vanity Cured" has been recently added. Mr. Henry Farren and Mr. Ranger figure as the leading performers of the company, which seems sufficiently well adapted for the purpose intended.

SURREY.

Miss Cushman has migrated to this transpontine stage, and appeared on Monday in *Lady Macbeth*. The part formed one of the earliest triumphs of this celebrated actress; and she still performs it with considerable force, though perhaps not with all the effect for which it was once remarkable. We noticed many differences, both in style and detail; and particularly the presence of more effort than formerly. This was still more distinguishable in the somnolent scene, which was characterised by certain physical exaggerations of which we have no recollection on former occasions. But these probably, are portions of that system of realisation which it would appear Miss Cushman's present aim to carry out. She seeks to become the principal in the Physical School of acting, substituting power for subtlety. In her case, there can be no necessity for taking refuge in any such expedient. No actress can better indicate mental processes than she, or speak to the soul more directly. We would, therefore, sincerely counsel her to retrace her steps, and rather aim at intellectual refinement than sensible embodiment. By much study of a character, no doubt, many suggestions are added; but a tasteful selection is in most cases of more importance than an ambitious accumulation. Mr. Creswick performed the over-tempted and superstitious Thane, with his usual care, and occasionally with a success that served to mark the progress which he has lately made in the difficult art of which he is so worthy a professor. His influence at this theatre cannot fail to be beneficial; and we wish it were more effectual to promote the inte-



HAYMARKET THEATRE—SCENE FROM "MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE (IN LEICESTER-SQUARE)."

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE.

LAST NIGHTS OF DER FREISCHUTZ.—On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, her Majesty's servants will perform in German Weber's Opera DER FREISCHUTZ. Agathe, Madame Caradori; Anne, Mdlle. Bedizak; Max, Herr Reichardt; Casper, Herr Formis. To conclude with a Ballet. Gallery, 1s.; pit, 2s.; boxes, 3s.; dress circle, 5s.; stalls, 7s. Private boxes, one, two, three, and four guineas each.—On Wednesday and Friday, LA SONNAMBULA.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

MR BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE. EVERY EVENING, with Monday and Thursday, London Assurance, Tuesday, The Hope of the Family: Wednesday and Friday, Town and Country; and Saturday, Ramsgate.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.

—On MONDAY, and during the Week will be performed MARRIED UN-MARRIED, and the new magical Drama of FAUST AND MARQUERITE; with other Entertainments.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.

—On MONDAY, and during the Week (Wednesday excepted), to commence with BEN BOLT.

After which the Farce of Bon to Good Luck. To conclude with an Operatic Drama. On Wednesday a variety of Entertainments.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, can always be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarionet Hotel. Opera Pit Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

G. V. BROOKE'S FAREWELL PROGRAMME.

VINCIAL TOUR.—He will perform at Aberdeen from May 1st to 13th; and at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, from Monday the 15th May. Mr. Brooke's stay in England is limited to a very few months.

GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.

The DIORAMA of the OVERLAND MAIL will be privately shown on SATURDAY, MAY 1st, for the junction of a New Diorama, illustrating the DANUBE and BLACK SEA.

M. R. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC,

including the Bernese Oberland and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING, at eight o'clock, except Saturday; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, at Three.—Stalls, 3s.; which can be taken at the Box-office every day from Eleven till Four; area, 2s.; gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the WAR.—The LECTURE illustrating the MOVING DIORAMA of CANADA and the UNITED STATES, DAILY, at Three and Eight o'clock. Descent of Niagara, and River St. Lawrence. With Songs, Glees, and Choruses. Mr. Friend now Lectures and Singing himself. Admission: 1s., 2s., and 3s. Box-office open daily.

NEXT the POLYTECHNIC, Regent-street.

MR. FRIEND'S GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CANADA and the UNITED STATES, DAILY, at Three and Eight o'clock. Descent of Niagara, and River St. Lawrence. With Songs, Glees, and Choruses. Mr. Friend now Lectures and Singing himself. Admission: 1s., 2s., and 3s. Box-office open daily.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.

The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN MASTERS is NOW OPEN DAILY, from Nine a.m. till Dusk. Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 1s., New Bond-street, next door to the Clarionet.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, PALL-MALL East.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM

IS NOW OPEN, in the spacious premises known as the HALL ROOMS, Piccadilly. For Gentlemen, from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten daily. On Wednesday and Friday a portion of the Museum is open for Ladies only, from Two till Five.—Admission, 1s.

VENTRILOCUY.—PHILHARMONIC ROOMS, Newmnan-street, Oxford-street.—MONDAY, MAY 8, and every Evening, Mr. LOVE, universally accepted as the first Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, will present his last new Entertainment, called THE LONDON SEASON, with a New Stage, Dresses, and Appointments with other Entertainments.—Tickets, 4s., 3s., 2s., and 1s. Begins at Eight.

S. T. MARTIN'S HALL.—Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and the successful Oratorio "Daniel," as Mr. GEORG. LAKE'S CONCERT, MAY 16th. Mademoiselle Clara Novella, Dolby; Messrs. Sims Reeves, Champion, Weisz, and Formis. With full Band and Chorus. Tickets, 2s., 3s., 5s., at Addison's, 210, Regent-street; at most music houses; or of Mr. G. Lake, Addington-place, Camberwell.

COLOGNE CHORAL UNION (DER KÖLNER MANNER GESELLSCHAFT).

HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—Mr. MITCHELL respectfully announces that the above distinguished Society will give a second Series of SIX MORNING CONCERTS at the Hanover-square Rooms, which are fixed to take place on the following days—Monday, May 5; Wednesday, May 10; Friday, May 12; Monday, May 15; Wednesday, May 17; and Friday, May 19. Director, Herr FRANZ WEBER. The Repertoire of the Society now comprises more than 120 Selections, many of them entirely new. The Concerts will be arranged as last year, commencing at Half past Three, and for instant repeat Five o'Clock. The ONLY EVENING CONCERTS which can be given during the short Interventions of two distinguished Society will take place on SATURDAY EVENING, May 13, and half past Eight o'clock. Tickets of Admission: Reserved Seats for the Six Concerts, Two Guineas; Price, Single Tickets, 1s. 6d., admission to the body of the room, 1s.; which may be had at Mr. MITCHELL's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

MRS. PLUMMER'S SOIRES

MUSICALS.—Mrs. PLUMMER respectfully announces that her THIRD SOIREE will take place at the NEW BEETHOVEN ROOMS, 27, Queen Anne-street, Cavendish-square, on FRIDAY next, MAY 5. The following talented artists will assist: Vocalists: Mademoiselle Ernest, Mrs. Bower, and Signorina. Instrumentalists: Grand Piano forte, Ferdinand Preys, Violin, Miss J. Westlake; Hildebrandt, Hildebrandt, Harp; Mr. John Thomas, his first appearance since his return to England; Clarionet, Mr. George Keay, Conductor, Herr Auschner. Reserved Seats, 10s. 6d., or three for One Guinea; Unreserved, 7s., or four for One Guinea, may be obtained at Hodges's Library, 9, Great Marylebone-street; or at Mrs. Plummer's residence, 26, York-street, Portman-square.

UNDER the IMMEDIATE PATRONAGE

of her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN, Her Royal Highness Prince Albert, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, Mr. JENEDICT'S ANNUAL MORNING CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on JUNE 23, 1854, when the most eminent available Vocal and instrumental talent will be engaged to deserve the distinguished patronage it has enjoyed for so many years. Full particulars will be duly announced. Reserved Seats, One Guinea each, may be had at the principal Music-halls and Libraries, and of Mr. Benedict, 2, Manchester-square.

GEOLOGY.—KING'S COLLEGE, London.

—Professor TENNANT, F.G.S., will give a COURSE of TWELVE LECTURES ON PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, having special reference to the important applications of the Science to Engineering, Mining, Architecture, and Agriculture. The Lectures will commence on WEDNESDAY MORNING, May 3rd, at Nine o'clock. They will be continued on each succeeding Friday and Wednesday, at the same hour.

LECTURES to WORKING MEN, being the Third and Last of these courses for the present Session, to be delivered at the MUSEUM of PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, 1, Jermyn-street. The Course of Six Lectures on MINALS, by JOHN PERCY, M.D., F.R.S., will be commenced on MONDAY, MAY 8th, at Eight o'clock p.m. Tickets may be obtained, by Working Men only, on Monday, the 1st of May, from Ten to Five, on payment of a registration fee of 6d.

ATTRACTIVE NOVELTIES.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

Patron: H.R.H. Prince ALBERT.—The SEAT of WAR, with the Principal Officers on the Danube, Kasafat, Witton, Gegevo, Selez, the entrance to the Black Sea, Battle of Samsun, and Destruction of the Turkish Fleet, and other scenes kindly supplied by the Proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS) exhibited in a New Series of DISSOLVING VIEWS. Lectures by J. H. PIPER, Esq., on the Chemistry of our Daily Bread; in special relation to that made by the new process of the Mirabol-Winkles, also at two o'clock; and in the evenings on the Manufacture and Preparation of Paper. Lecture by Dr. BACON JEFFERSON on Electricity, and the Electric Light. Lecture of Testimony of Prof. Rot. on the Sunken Vessels, &c., &c.—Open Mornings and Evenings. Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under ten years of half-pence.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.

Fellows and visitors are informed that a pair of GIANT EATERS, an adult pair of INDIAN LIONS, and a pair of LEPOIDS, have both added to the Collection. Admission, 1s. Mondays, 6d.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION.—An

EXHIBITION of PICTURES, by the most celebrated French, Italian and English Photographers, embracing views of the principal countries and cities of Europe, is now OPEN. Admission, 6d. A portrait taken by Mr. Talbot's Patent Process, One Guinea; three extra copies for 10s.—Photographic Institution, 168, New Bond-street.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE, 1854.—It is intended to OPEN the CRYSTAL PALACE and PARK at the end of MAY, after which they will be open Daily, Sundays excepted.

The following are the arrangements for the admission of the Public—
FIVE SHILLING DAYS.—On Saturdays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets, of 5s. each; and by tickets to include conveyance by railway.

HALF-CROWN DAYS.—On Fridays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets, of 2s. 6d. each; and by tickets to include conveyance by railway.

SHILLING DAYS.—On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays will be Shilling Days. At the rate of payment of One Shilling each will admit the public; or tickets, entitling the holder to admission to the Palace and Park, and also to conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway, from London-bridge Station to the Palace and back, will be issued on the following prices:

Including first-class carriage 2s. 6d.
Including second ditto 2s. 6d.
Including third ditto 1s. 6d.

CHILDREN.—Children under twelve years of age will be admitted at half the above rates.

HOURS of OPENING.—The Palace and Park will be opened on Mondays, at nine o'clock; on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, at ten o'clock, a.m.; and on Fridays and Saturdays at twelve o'clock; and close every day an hour before sunset.

OPENING DAY.—The opening will take place about the end of May. The precise day will be announced as early as possible. On that occasion season tickets only will be admitted.

SEASON TICKETS.—Season tickets will be issued at two guineas each, to admit the proprietor to the Palace and Park on the day of opening, and on all other days when the building is open to the public.

Season Tickets, to include conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway from London-bridge to the Palace and back, without further charge, will be issued at four guineas each, subject to the regulations of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company; but these tickets will be available only for trains from and to London and the Palace on such days as it is open to the public, and will not be available for any intermediate stations.

No Season Ticket will be transferable or available except to the person whose signature it bears.

FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.—Members of the same family who reside together will have the privilege of taking season tickets for their own use, with or without railway conveyance, on the following reduced terms:

Families taking two tickets will be entitled to 10 per cent discount on the gross amount paid for such tickets; taking three tickets, to a discount of 15 per cent; taking four tickets, to a discount of 20 per cent; and taking five tickets, to a discount of 25 per cent.

Persons holding the above privileges, and desiring to avail themselves of it, must apply in the accompanying form; and these tickets will be available only to the persons named in such application.

Printed forms of application may be had at the Offices, 3, Adelaide-place, and at the other offices for tickets.

Season tickets will entitle to admission from the opening day till the 20th April, 1855.

Applications may be made for season tickets at the offices of the Company, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge. Season tickets, as soon as ready, will be delivered in the order in which the applications have been made, at the offices of the Company, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge, and 14, Regent-street; and at the Crystal Palace; also at Mr. Name's, 1, St. James's-street; Mr. Mitchell's, Bond-street; Weston's Library, Knightsbridge. The tickets to include conveyance by railway will be delivered at the Office of the Secretary to the Brighton Railway, London-bridge.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS AND LAWS.—All the general provisions and regulations mentioned above are to be understood as being subservient to such special provisions, regulations, and by-laws on the part of the Railway Company, and the Palace Committee as may be found necessary to regulate the traffic and to meet special occasions and circumstances which may, from time to time, arise.

By order of the Board, G. GROVE, Secretary.

Adelaide-place, London-bridge, April 13, 1854.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.

To G. Grove, Esq., Secretary, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge.

Sir—Be good enough to supply me with Family Season Tickets for myself and the following members of my family, who are all reading with me.

Yours, obediently,

Name Address Christian Name Designation Surname Without Conveyance by Railways. Including Conveyance by Railways.

Two tickets 2s. 16. 0
Three 2. 7. 6
Four 6. 15. 0
Five 7. 17. 6
Six 9. 9. 0
Seven 11. 0. 6
Eight 12. 12. 0
Nine 13. 3. 6
Ten 15. 15. 0

Note.—The above Application must be addressed to the Secretary, as above, and accompanied by a remittance for the full amount of the tickets asked for, according to the above Schedule, in favour of George Grove, 3, Adelaide-place. Cheques must be on a London banker, and be crossed with the words "Union Bank of London." And no application unless so accompanied, will be attended to.

And no application unless so accompanied, will be attended to.

EARLY COUNTS RAILWAY.—On

MONDAY, MAY 1st, the following ARRANGEMENT of EXCURSIONS from LONDON will come into operation.

FAMILY TICKETS to YARMOUTH and LOWESTOFT, available for twenty-eight days.—Fares: first class, 3s.; second class, 2s.; with a ticket for one member of each family to travel to and fro at greatly reduced fares.

An EXCURSION from London at 1.30 p.m. every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY to CAMBRIDGE, YARMOUTH, LOWESTOFT, &c., with option of returning within seven days.

An EXCURSION to IPSWICH or HAVERHILL every SUNDAY, at 8 a.m., returning the same day. Fares: first class, 7s.; second class, 5s.; third class, 3s. 6d.

An EXCURSION from London at 1.30 p.m. every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY to IPSWICH or HAVERHILL every SUNDAY, at 8 a.m., returning the same day. Fares: first class, 7s.; second class, 5s.; third class, 3s. 6d.

An EXCURSION to Ipswich or Haverhill by STEAM-VESSEL from NORTH WOOLWICH, in conjunction with 8.45 a.m. Train from Bishopsgate, returning by Train from Ipswich same day. Fares: first class and saloon, 6s.; third class and fore cabin, 4s.

For further particulars see placards or hand-bills, which may be had at Bishopsgate Station, on and after 25th inst.

Coaching Superintendent's Office, Bishopsgate Station, April 18, 1854.

By order.

Bishopsgate Station, April 18, 1854.

CHARLES BARTON, Secretary.

This Corporation will lend passengers and luggage on the wharf free of charge. For further particulars apply to James M. Walther, 45, Chapel-street, Liverpool; or to Thomas Woolley, 13, Fenchurch-street, London.

This Corporation will land passengers and luggage on the wharf free of charge. For further particulars apply to James M. Walther, 45, Chapel-street, Liverpool; or to Thomas Woolley, 13, Fenchurch-street, London.

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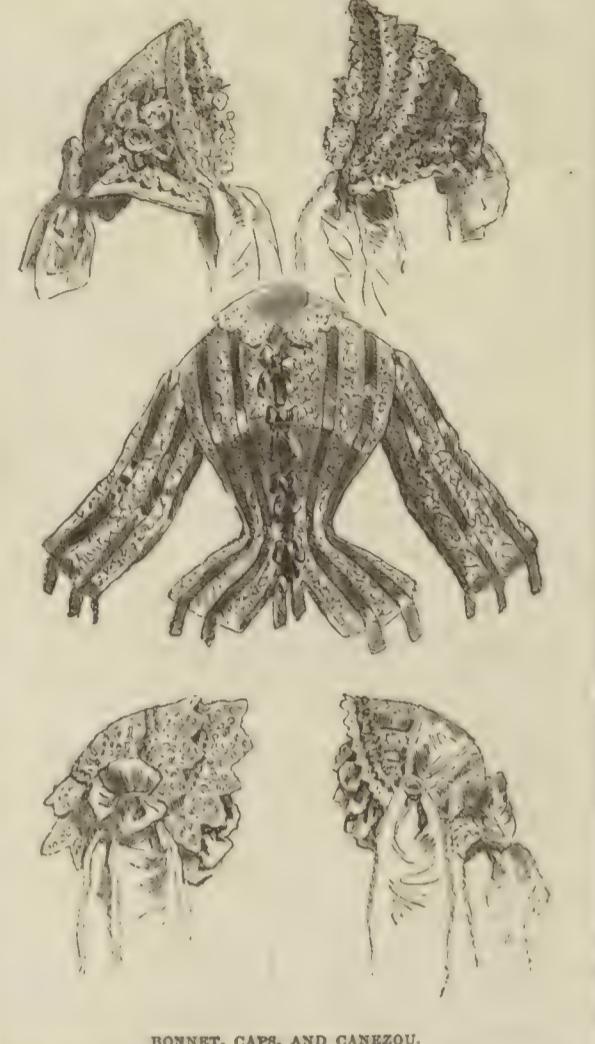
PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.



EVENING DRESS.

(Continued from page 394.)

wrists ornamented with handsome Valenciennes lace. Another dress was en grenadine, the colour blue Louise, with large squares formed by lines of three different blues, trimmed with three rows of flounces, edged with quilled ribbon, on a dress of pale rose-colour. Sarments and watered silks are worn plain. Plaid silks admit of a great variety. The petticoats have returned to the greatest simplicity, and are worn quite plain. The body is worn rather open on the chest, and turned back with Chinese basques; the sleeves are almost Amadis at the top, but they gradually widen to the elbow. For such as prefer ornament, fashion sanctions the bows Louis XIII., which are placed at will on the bodies and on the skirts, with the small ornaments in velvet cut out like lace. A very singular, as well as useful, ornament are the puffed ribbons, which have all the appearance of bows, are tastefully arranged, and possess the advantage of constantly retaining their form. The bonnets continue to be worn small, but are rather wider; they are literally



BONNET, CAPS, AND CANEZOU.

covered with lace. The capotes and crape bonnets are ornamented with peach-blossom flowers, or a bouquet of Alpine violets.

The fashions for young ladies are beautiful novelties. Barège dresses are most in vogue. The skirts form three tunics; the body forms the point plain without basques, rather low. Grenadine is also much worn by young persons. The following is a very pretty dress: pink sarcent plaid dress, with cherry-coloured stripes; canezhou in spotted net and ribbons; trimming, Valenciennes lace; head-dress, bandeaux puffed and turned up, accompanied by a large bow of ribbon of the same colour as the ribbon of the canezhou. This completes a very pleasing toilette for young persons.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Children's Dresses.—The most charming costumes for children are seen in the Champ Elysées, round the carriage drawn by goats, the favourite amusement of children.

A favourite dress for a little girl is Scotch poplin, or pink, pale-green, or blue Louise sarcent, in small squares, formed by a black and-white stripe, trimmed with flounces. Some children's dresses are made with basques, slashed in the Spanish fashion. Round hats in Leghorn straw are worn, with long ends to the bows.



EVENING WALKING DRESS.

The little boys wear doublets of poplin, or of satin de laine, ornamented with velvet or braid, white shirts, or striped cambric, collar turned over, and scalloped with the same colour as the stripe; light beaver or straw hats, trimmed with feathers, ribbons, or galloon.

Evening Walking Dress.—Dress of grey sarcent with three flounces, ornaments in violet-colour velvet, placed at intervals from the bottom towards the top of the dress. Mantilla, with a wide fringe.

Toilette for Small Parties.—Dress of pou-de-soie of the best quality in shot silk; canezhou of the same material, fitting tight to the shape, with bows of ribbon trimmed with a puffing of silk fawn-colour; head-dress, bandeaux, with bows and ends of ribbon.

Bonnet—with puffings of net; top trimmed with Parma violets.

Morning Caps—with Valenciennes trimmings.

Canezhou in spotted net; ribbon of the same colour as that of the skirt; bows arranged à la vieille, and Valenciennes form the basques.



CHILDREN'S DRESSES FOR MAY.—THE GOAT-CHAISE IN THE CHAMPS ELYSEES.



ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1854.

[GRATIS.]

PILGRIMAGE TO "THE HOLY CITY" OF KIEFF.

KIEFF, Kiev, or Kiow, one of the most picturesque spots in Russia, the "Holy City" or Rome of the Greek Church, draws each year thousands of pilgrims to the shrines of its many saints. It is situated on the Dnieper, in the government of the same name, and is the capital of Little Russia and the Ukraine. It possesses twenty-four churches, to most of which are attached wealthy convents. Among the most famous is the Lavra, occupying a commanding position on the summit of the steep banks of the Dnieper, in the centre of the Petchersky fortress, seen in our Engraving. Its lofty tower is visible from the long flat Moscow road on the opposite side, at a distance of seventy versts. Here the metropolitan of the Greek Church resides. This monastery is supposed to contain immense riches in gold and jewels—reserved, probably, to pay the expenses of our gallant troops, should they penetrate so far in pursuit of the flying Muscovites. Beneath the hill on which the church and citadel stand are the catacombs, a vast labyrinth of cells and chapels, in which are preserved, it is stated, undecayed, the bodies of 110 martyrs, and various reliquies of saints. Formerly, Kieff boasted of 800 religious establishments. Accounts of that city in the seventeenth century make mention of inscriptions in the Greek language, on some of the monuments, then almost illegible.

In 861 Kio, Prince of the Muscovites, made this town his capital; and it had become celebrated for its Eastern magnificence and luxury in 1070, when Boseslas, Duke of Poland, with a view to the conquest of Russia, attacked Kieff, and, after a long siege and dreadful carnage, took the capital. The most authentic historians relate that Boseslas, tempted by the luxury of Kieff, and captivated by the beauty of the women, remained there with his soldiers, so long indulging in every excess, that his subjects at home broke out into open revolt. Upon this Boseslas raised an army of Russians, and, falling upon his rebellious subjects, put the innocent and the guilty alike to the sword. Poland was inundated with blood. The primate of Warsaw, Stanislas,

dared to reproach Boseslas with these excesses, and was slain by him at the foot of the altar.

In 1615 Kiev was invaded by the Tartars, from which time its ancient importance declined. It was subsequently overrun and possessed by the Cossacks under the protection of Poland; but in 1654 the inhabitants, discontented with their rulers, revolted, and submitted to Russia, and have since remained subject to that Empire. The vast privileges enjoyed by the natives have gradually been abolished, and they are now on the same footing with the other Russian provinces.

This government is exceedingly fertile, and produces the best wheat in Europe, although the climate is subject to great extremes of heat and cold. The population, according to the last census, amounts to 1,605,800. The city of Kieff is about 490 miles S.W. of Moscow, has 45,000 inhabitants. It is divided into three parts. The Fortress of Petchersky, on the heights facing the south, contains the Lavra church, monastery, and dependencies, and the suburbs of Petchersky and Libki. The part called Old Kieff is built on an eminence facing the north, where stands the ancient cathedral of St. Sophia: on repairing the interior walls of this building frescoes were lately discovered, which are being restored. Padol, the commercial part of the town, lies below in the plain on the banks of the Dnieper, and contains numerous churches, besides the shops and magazines. In that quarter an annual fair is held (similar to the one at Nijeni-Novgorod): it is called the "Contracts;" and is the scene of great gaiety. Both Petchersky and Old Kieff are fortified, according to the mountainous nature of the situation: the fortifications, connected by numerous detached round forts, is still in progress of completion.

The Easter Festival of the Greek Church is the appointed season for the pilgrimage to the various churches and monasteries: the "Lavra" and catacombs being the chief objects of attraction—adjoining which various buildings have been erected by the monks for the accommodation of the pilgrims. To the poorer of them, who sleep *à la belle étoile*, black bread is distributed daily by the nuns. A pilgrimage to

Kieff is one of the essential acts of the Greek religion; and from high to low there are few Russians who have not, once in their lives, performed the journey. One church has a beautiful silver canopy, offered to the patron Saint by the Countess Orloff. The serfs, however, form the mass of pilgrims. Nothing can exceed the picturesque appearance of the groups that, day after day, during the Easter week, enter the city, from the borders of Turkey to the distant regions of Kamtschatka. The dress of the Russian peasantry in each of the governments is marked by peculiar characteristics, and partakes of the Oriental type; and the artist's eye is struck by the draping of their linen and woollen garments, which fall about their figures in classical folds. Distance, however, as in many other cases, decidedly "lends enchantment to the view;" for, on a nearer inspection, cleanliness is not the distinguishing feature. It was amongst the crowd collected around the "Lavra" that the cholera broke out in 1848; and the authorities of the town, alarmed at its fearful ravages, issued an order for the immediate dispersion of the devotees; but the evil was done. The small figures in the Sketch, though each taken from nature, scarcely convey an idea of the variety of costume: bright colours mark the dress of the females; and the young girls of the Ukraine plait and adorn their long hair with flowers and floating ribbons. The effect of the scene is heightened by the clear sky, the broad noble river, the rafts, and the high-masted craft, with their immense expanse of canvas; the wooded heights of the hills of Kieff, are crowned by the lofty tower and splendidly-gilt cupolas of the "Lavra" in clear outline on the deep blue sky; and in the distance, the Padol, with its Asiatic minarets.

The weary pilgrims will this year have a more expeditious, though less picturesque, mode of crossing the Dnieper than in the old ferry-boat; since the magnificent suspension-bridge—half a mile in length, erected from the designs and under the superintendence of the English engineer, Mr. Vignoles—was opened last autumn. (An Engraving of the bridge, with particulars, may be referred to in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Feb. 23, 1850.)

A more important advantage to the Czar, under present circumstances, is the facility of transporting his troops across the wide river, from the interior of Russia on their road to Turkey; a few hours now being only required for the passage of an armament that would formerly, at this present season of floods, have required days, and even weeks, to effect.



PILGRIMS CROSSING THE DNEIPEL TO "THE HOLY CITY" OF KIEFF.

THE DAY OF HUMILIATION AND PRAYER.

WEDNESDAY having been set apart for the solemn observance of a General Fast, Humiliation, and Prayer, invoking the Divine blessing and assistance upon our arms during the present war, and for the speedy restoration of peace, business was very generally suspended throughout the whole of the metropolis. The public offices were closed as far as the requirements of the service permitted; the banks, counting-houses, and shops were almost universally shut; and, in fact, the day was observed with more strictness than Sunday is in general.

Upon two ensuing pages we have Engraved a selection of Portraits of the Clergy of the metropolis by whom Sermons were preached in observance of the day. The series appropriately commences with his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, by whom were composed the impressive Collect and Prayers in the appointed "Form." We next present to our readers brief Abstracts of the Sermons preached by those of the Clergy whose Portraits are here engraved.

ST. JAMES'S, PICCADILLY.

REV. J. E. KEMPE.

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God."—1st Epistle of St. Peter, v., verse 6.

The rev. gentleman commenced by observing that, within the recollection of nearly all who were present, days had been set apart for national humiliation and prayer before God, on two occasions when this country was ravaged by a fearful pestilence. The calamities of those visitations were forced upon the attention of all, and it might be fairly presumed that there was a very general impression as to the fitness of the posture which, at the periods to which he referred, the nation was required to assume. A peace of nearly forty years' continuance had raised up a generation which knew nothing of the sad and frightful realities of war. Some persons might ask, "Why should we humble ourselves? Where is our present chastisement? Where is the cause of fear? Have we not every prospect of a complete and speedy triumph?" Now, in justification of the act of the Sovereign in summoning her subjects not only to prayer, but also to humiliation, he wished to impress upon his hearers a clear and strong apprehension of the general truth, that the suitable attitude of the suppliant to God must always be that of abasement and contrition. The rev. preacher called upon his hearers to remember how much was involved in the prayer for exemption from temporal evils. It was, in fact, a kind of special miracle of grace which they sought to have wrought in their behalf, and they ought to ask this boon in the posture of penitence and humiliation. In the next place, they ought to understand and feel, at the present time, their need of God's help and defence in the coming struggle, and the utter hopelessness of success to their arms if He was not on their side as their strength and salvation. This was a truth rather to be apprehended by faith than enforced by reasoning. Let them look to the enormous weight of neutral power in Europe which might, before the end of another year, be thrown, more or less largely, into the opposing scale. What seemed, however, to render the position of this country one of the most anxious uncertainty—one of the most absolute dependence upon the will of God—was the circumstance that one-half of their strength might be lost from them by the quenching of a single spark of human life. Who would venture to assure them that if to-morrow the Lord of Life and Death were to bid his angel knock at the Palace-gate of their Imperial ally, the very next day the English alliance might not be repudiated, and the fleets and armies which had been called into efficiency by the present crisis might not be employed against this country? On a former occasion he had enumerated some of the chief calamities of a state of war, even to people who watched its progress at a distance from their own shores. He might, however, remind them of another consideration—the evils which war would inflict upon them, to which they were less alive than to the ills it was sure to bring upon themselves. Persons might talk exultingly of our strength, and might be anxious to see our fleets wield their tremendous powers of destruction; but could any one contemplate without horror the picture of a noble ship sinking with the freight of brave and gallant men—men born for eternity? These were men, be it remembered, who, though not of our race and not speaking our language, were men of that one blood which God had infused into the veins of every nation under heaven, and Christian men too. They must feel, then, that the period of history upon which they were entering was a period of calamity, and therefore of Divine chastisement. "Wherefore of chastisement?" it might be asked. "God does not willingly afflict the children of men." But national sin was the aggregate of individual sin; and therefore, under national chastisement, individual self-examination, individual confession, and individual amendment, were required to turn away the wrathful indignation of God.—Among the congregation were the Earl of Aberdeen and his brother, the Hon. Admiral Gordon, the Bishop of London, Earl de Grey, and the Bishop of Winchester.

ST. GEORGE'S, BLOOMSBURY.

HON. AND REV. H. M. VILLIERS.

There was an unusually large attendance at this church, and a most eloquent discourse was delivered by the Hon. and Rev. H. M. Villiers. We, however, regret that we cannot give even an outline of it, inasmuch as we had not received the report up to the time of our going to press.

ST. CLEMENT DANES.

REV. W. W. ELLIS, M.A.

And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, "Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God; for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude. O Lord, thou art our God; let no man prevail against Thee."—2nd Chronicles, xiv., 2.

The text here chosen seems to contain much at least, if not all, that is absolutely requisite for our practical consideration at the time when our hosts are going forth—in a righteous cause, as we believe—against the enemies of peace. First, the text is a prayer—the surest weapon in war, as in all other emergencies; secondly, it is the prayer of a King on the eve of battle, and therefore partakes of a national character; thirdly, it is a prayer of faith, exhibiting reliance upon the Divine arm for help, and therefore implying humiliation, together with a distinct conviction that no human force, however vast, can ever prevail, except under the recognised championship of the Almighty. The appropriateness of this text will appear still more striking if we call to mind the historical circumstances with which it stands immediately connected. This is the prayer of Asa—and Asa, it will be remembered, was one of the good Kings of Judah, the greater part of whose long and prosperous reign was blessed with peace in consequence of his integrity, and whose arms were crowned with victory in a war of necessity against the Ethiopians, because, whilst making every human preparation to meet the hosts of a mighty enemy, he showed, by public acts of piety and faith, his entire dependence upon Divine succour for a successful result. The peace which Asa and his people had enjoyed is attributed directly to God: "The land had rest; and he had no war in those years, because the Lord had given him rest." Nevertheless, in that time of peace, he made great preparation for war, not expecting, in the usual course of human events, that, however favoured by the Almighty, he should be always exempt from the necessity of national conflict with an enemy. Accordingly, we read that, during peace, he built fortified cities, and raised an army of 580,000 men, of whom 300,000 were spear-men, and 280,000 drew the bow. Nor was this preparation in vain, for at length a gigantic enemy arose—Zerah, the Ethiopian—and made an aggressive attack against him, with a host of 1,000,000 of armed men. The battle was on the point of being set in array—army against army—and then it was that Asa employed the critical interval in offering up a public prayer, in conjunction with his people, to invoke that indispensable arm without which countless hosts would be as nothing, and by the aid of which a sling and a stone might prevail against Goliath. And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, "Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude." I do not purpose to make here any lengthened application of those circumstances in the Sacred History to the dread occasion which has now called forth our national cry of supplication to Him who alone can "defend the right," and give victory to the battle. I will only say, by way of testimony to the fact, that we, too, as a nation, have been highly favoured with the blessings of a long peace. Thrice happy are we under the benignant sway of a good and virtuous Sovereign, though, as a nation, we cannot dare to claim these blessings as a reward for our national or individual righteousness. We have made also a vast preparation against an impending struggle. Compelled at length, in spite of

the most patient and persevering efforts for the preservation of peace, to go forth in defence of a weak ally against a powerful aggressor, whose palpable aim is to strike through that weaker side, a deadly blow at the heart of other nations, and eventually to paralyse our own empire; and, having made this preparation, determined to employ all human means that are lawful to check the unjust aggressor, with a simple view to regain for ourselves and for others the Christian object of an extensive and permanent peace, we now solemnly commit our cause to the disposal of the Almighty. We use the precious interval between the rush of conflicting armies and the crash of embattled navies to implore the crowning consummation of all—the shield, the arm, and the sword of the Lord of Hosts. Not trusting merely to our human equipments, however vast, which might be blasted in a day, or an hour, by the breath of the Almighty—not depending only upon the help of earthly allies, however strong, and bound by present ties of friendly concord, which might be snapt asunder in a moment, if not held together by a power of unity from above—not boasting of former victories, as if past success must necessarily insure success for the future—not calculating the contingent power of numbers either on the one side or the other, as if numbers alone were to decide the issue—but rather acting on the same kind of faith as that which dictated the prayer of Asa, "Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power"—we turn to the surest source of all strength, and raise a nation's cry on this appointed day. One part of our supplication is clearly this—"Help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude." The preacher next asserted the lawfulness of a just and necessary war, confirming his position by a quotation from Bishop Horne's sermon before the House of Parliament on the breaking out of a former war, in the year 1780, and then proceeded to show the importance of this day's humiliation. But, though perfectly justifiable as a case of absolute necessity, and as a public act of corrective justice, we are, nevertheless, bound as Christians to view this war in the light of Scripture, as in itself an evil, as a national calamity, and, it may be, as a Divine judgment for national transgressions. Hence the paramount importance of this day of humiliation. The sword is drawn—who can tell when that sword shall return peacefully to the scabbard? For (let us not be wilfully blind to the future) who can tell, now that the sword is once drawn, what a complication of national disasters it may possibly entail—what vast treasure may be exhausted—what sacrifices we may have to make—what national and personal losses we may have to sustain—what oceans of blood may be doomed to be shed? And, lastly, on what incalculable contingencies may and must hang the final conclusion of peace. Nations must be kept together in unity; myriads of human wills must be overruled; a bridle must be put in the mouth of Sennacherib. Ought we not to feel convinced now more than ever that we are at the mercy of the Almighty? If so, is there not still more ground laid down for our humbling ourselves before God—spreading the case before the Lord—solemnly committing all into His hands, and saying, with heartfelt and earnest prayer, breathing the spirit of Asa's supplication while the hosts are rushing to the scene of battle, "Help us, O Lord, our God, for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name, we go against this multitude."

ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL, HAMPSTEAD-ROAD.

THE REV. HENRY STEBBING, D.D., F.R.S.

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.—St. Luke, xv., v. 18, 19.

With these words the service of this day commences, and they explain the principle upon which the day has been set apart. It is for humiliation and confession of sin, by each individual, that so the general punishment of guilt may be averted. All calamities have their origin in sin; and war, with all its consequences—the dearth of food, the distress of the poor, the undermining of national wealth and prosperity, no less than the sacrifice of life and the friendless homes it involves—is one of the effects of sin. It would be a blessed sight indeed if, in obedience to the call of our Sovereign, every man in this kingdom would take up the prayer of the text, confessing his own individual sinfulness; and, if generally, we entreat the Lord, as we have forfeited our claim, personally and nationally, to our right to sonship, still to permit us to become His servants, and, by His grace, to be enabled to fulfil His will. But there are national sins also demanding our attention. No country, perhaps (and we bless God for it), has so few national sins as our own: for we ought to bear in mind that those which are countenanced by the will and voice of the people, as expressed by their representatives in the Legislature, and not those which are only generally prevalent, are properly so called. Of these, one is intoxication—a vice which is legitimatised by the Government, by granting so many licenses to houses for the sale of ardent spirits, instead of being repressed. Another is that of Sabbath-breaking, which is lightly thought of in the Senate, and is set at nought by the great companies which offer excursions and pleasure-trips, by railway or steam-boat, on that holy day. No one who has seen an excursion-train disgorge its cargo of debased souls on the Sabbath, can listen to the plea that such persons are as fit to confess their sins, and pray for pardon and grace, at the end of their journey, as if they had remained at home. Nor ought we to lament if God should visit upon all such enterprises the ruin and distress which such sin deserves. Another national sin is springing up among us, which, perhaps, requires to be dealt with more tenderly, but is of no less importance. England owes all its safety and prosperity in the past to its Protestantism; it gained the respect of the world, and stood firm amidst general confusion so long as it allowed the pure Evangelic faith to be spread throughout the land, and its Church abided by the word of God. But what shall we say of the courage or firmness of British Christians who will suffer the introduction of a pseudo-Romanism, simply because of the position of those who, with the prestige of a great name, or of high station, venture to propose it. Why not crush the serpent while it is yet in the egg, rather than allow it to come forth, the curse of the nation, the destroyer of its liberties and the cause of provoking God's wrath upon our land? But while these are national sins, let us not forget that they are all personal ones, which every one, more or less, in his position, can help to diminish. It is in this way that we can make the day of humiliation profitable—first, by bringing our sins before us, and lamenting over them, and then by taking care not to allow the good impression of the day to pass from us, but to regulate our future conduct by our present resolves. Not thus to act is to make a mockery of the solemn service; for while, indeed, we also meet together to pray that God's blessing may rest upon the noble defenders of our country who are engaged in the war, and earnestly desire that they may return victorious; yet the purpose of humiliation and confession of sin is our first duty, as it is only by the application of the great doctrines of the Gospel, the pardon which we obtain through faith in the blood of Christ, and by the quickening and sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost, that this nation and all others can be made, in each of their members, peaceful and happy, as well as prosperous and united, in their efforts for the general good and improvement of the world.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.

REV. WILLIAM CURETON, M.A.

And it shall come to pass in the last days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go, and say, Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.—Isaiah, ii., 2, 3, 4.

The general scope of the sermon (after drawing attention to the solemnity of the occasion upon which they were called together, and commanding the act of her Majesty's Government in thus publicly seeking for God's blessing on our arms) was to show how the prophecies of Isaiah, proclaiming Christ's kingdom, and the prevalence of universal peace throughout the world, are gradually being accomplished—how the vast resources which the long peace we have enjoyed has developed have proved to all, even the men of the world, that peace is beneficial for all classes of society and for all nations; and that, consequently, it becomes the interest of even the man of the world to co-operate with the Christian in promoting and maintaining that peace which, of itself, affords the best opportunities for the propagation of the Gospel; and now, both of these mutually are co-operating to effect, in the end, the accomplishment of that glorious prophecy, and, as the practical inference, to exhort all men, in their several conditions and capacities, to labour diligently to fulfil their Christian duties, by which means they will best contribute to the maintenance and preservation of that state of peace throughout the world which contributes so vastly to men's temporal happiness, as

well as tends so visibly to hasten the perfection of the kingdom of the Prince of Peace, both in the hearts of men and in the political relations of the world.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

THE REV. W. H. BENTINCK.—(MORNING).

Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the Lord our God. Psalm xx., v. 7.

There is a petition (said the rev. gentleman) in our liturgy which we are in the habit of repeating day after day, and Sabbath after Sabbath, yet, it is to be feared, without sufficiently attaching to it the importance it deserves. The petition I speak of is—"Give peace in our time, O Lord; because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only Thou, O God." For nearly forty years that prayer—although it may have been carelessly uttered and slightly appreciated—has received a gracious answer; for the Lord has given peace in our time, and we have enjoyed that peace so long that we seemed almost to have forgotten that God is the author of temporal as well as spiritual peace. We learn to appreciate the value rather by their loss than by their possession. Now that war is proclaimed in our time, it is well we should remember also the acknowledgment which we connect with our prayer, "There is none other that fighteth for us but only thou, O God." And our assembling together this day in humiliation and prayer, is in accordance with that acknowledgment, and responds to the declaration of the text, that whilst "some trust in chariots, and some in horses, we will remember the name of the Lord our God." In the words of the text we find two different lines of conduct pursued by two different classes of persons—first, those who walk by sight and trust in horses; and, secondly, those who walk by faith and will remember the name of the Lord God. Those who regard the war on which, as a nation, we are entering merely from a worldly point of view, depend principally upon the great preparations that have been made, and those preparations have been, very properly, of a most extensive nature. As far as human foresight will allow us to judge, the prestige of victory is in our favour. Yet the enemy is not one to be despised. In the words of a writer of the day, "the enemy against whom our arms are directed is not one whose prowess and power can be safely slighted. A colossal empire, possessed of vast resources, wielded by a sovereign of indomitable character and vast ambition, who has for years been collecting strength for a gigantic effort to sweep away every barrier by which the realisation of that ambition has been impeded, is our opponent. The issue to him is most momentous. It is to decide whether he is to be hereafter the controlling power in Europe and Asia; to rule absolutely in the Baltic; to hold the keys of the Euxine and Mediterranean, and push his conquest east until he clutched Hindostan; or whether he is to be driven back, and confined within the limits of the empire which Peter the Great bequeathed to his successors. This struggle will not be conducted by Russia without calling forth all the vigour of her arms." On the other hand, Great Britain enters into this struggle with every recognised prestige of success. She has as her active ally the greatest military nation in the world, whose soldiers and sailors are for the first time ranked with ours to fight side by side against the common enemy. Looking at our possession of the noblest fleet ever yet seen in ancient or modern days, and the best disciplined troops that ever marched to battle, our great mercantile marine, as well as our command over all the improved appliances which modern science has constructed for war, we might, in a worldly point of view, find much to trust in. But it is to be feared that there has been too exclusive a confidence placed in these advantages, and too general a forgetfulness of him whose power alone can give us victory. "The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the Lord." The records of our own national history will remind us of the great fleet prepared in former days against our own land, equipped in everything for victory, and called, in anticipation of triumph, the "Invincible Armada." Our gallant fleet, puny in comparison, sailed to meet it and protect our shores. Britain was saved, not by the valour and skill of her sailors, but by the hand of God. He blew with His wind, and our enemies were scattered. Again, there was the vast expedition against Russia, composed of the bravest troops, and led by one of the greatest generals of any age. In their victorious career they penetrated the very centre of the Russian empire, and possessed themselves of the Russian capital. But how short-lived was that triumph! The Grand Army returned a scattered band of wretched fugitives. It was He, whose weapons are the elements, who saved the empire against whom it was led. These instances, my brethren, will serve to show us it is vain to trust solely to naval or military preparations in time of war; the proud confidence of those who trust in horses and chariots will be brought low. We have not rushed heedlessly into this war; it has been forced upon us. We are not striving for dominion or power, but to check the ambitious designs of our enemy. An honourable peace with security against these designs is what is desired; and our prayers should be fervent when we say, "Give peace in our time, oh, Lord! because there is none other that fighteth for us but only Thou, oh God." Doubtless there are national sins that have called down this judgment of the sword upon this land; for it is with nations as with individuals. Peace was vouchsafed to Israel for forty years; but when forgetfulness of God came on the people, "their enemies were stirred up about them," and because they chose new gods, "then was there war in their gates." We, my brethren, have national sins to atone for; let us, then, enter upon individual repentance. Let us, my brethren, consider this day as a solemn call to the duty of repentance for sin, and a more lively faith towards our Lord Jesus. It is the humbling of the heart before God, in a deep sense of sorrow and hatred of sin, that is required. It is a rending of the heart, not of the garment—a penitent turning to the Lord, and casting ourselves at His mercy, that is the special duty required of us this day. Finally, then, brethren, let me exhort you to consider our present position. The evils of war are on our land; may it please Almighty God to lighten them to us, and speedily remove them from us; to defend those who have gone forth to fight our battles; to preserve our land from foreign enemies, and again to give peace in our time.

THE REV. LORD JOHN THYNNE.—(AFTERNOON.)

The Rev. Lord John Thynne preached in the afternoon, but we regret we did not receive a report of his sermon in time for our publication.

ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER-SQUARE.

REV. H. HOWARTH.

And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. Then upon Jahaziel, the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the spirit of the Lord in the midst of the congregation; and he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou King Jehoshaphat, thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's.—2nd Chronicles, xx., 13–15.

The rev. preacher, in a very lucid and logical discourse, combated the notion of those who hold all wars whatever to be contrary to Scriptural injunctions, and showed from various precepts of the Bible that they were not only justifiable, but that on some occasions the people had been commanded to engage in them. He then proceeded to inquire into the justice of this country entering into the present contest, and contended that justice was on their side. Adverting to the vices by which a great portion of the community are degraded, he exhorted his congregation to examine their hearts, and implore the Divine grace for amendment. An element of hope in the Divine favour was to be found in the example set by her Majesty the Queen, and by many in exalted positions.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

THE VERY REV. DR. MILMAN.—(MORNING.)

In Thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be put to confusion.—Psalm 71, v. 1.

The Dean commenced by observing, that of all the awful duties which belonged to the office of a minister of God, none could be more awful than that which was imposed upon him by the ceremony of that day. To him was not merely committed the solemn office of inviting the people to prayer and acts of humiliation at a period of impending peril and difficulty, but he was likewise compelled to perform the incongruous office of appealing on behalf of the people to the judgment of God, upon the war in which we are now unhappily engaged. God is, as it were, invoked upon this great and momentous question, and his approbation is supplicated in the proclamation of war which robs us of the blessings of a peace unexampled in duration, and the wonderful advancement in human civilisation. The rev. preacher having observed that our appeal to arms was only to be justified by stern and inflexible necessity, proceeded at considerable length to depict the horrors of war, and concluded a most able discourse by inculcating the necessity of cultivating the love of God, an unshaken trust in his mercy and goodness, a perfect resignation to his Divine will, and a meek submission to the sacrifices which all persons will be called upon to make during the continuance of this awful and momentous crisis.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON.—(AFTERNOON.)

[The afternoon service commenced at a quarter to three o'clock. The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and other members of the Corporation, attended in state, having walked to the Cathedral in solemn procession. The church was crowded in every part.]

There is no King saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength. A horse is a vain thing for safety; neither shall he deliver any by his great strength. Behold the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy. To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waiteth for the Lord: he is our help and our shield.—*Psalm xxxviii. v. 17-20.*

The Bishop of London commenced by observing that within the last few years they had met together twice in that church under extraordinary circumstances. The first occasion was to supplicate the throne of Mercy to avert from us the pestilence which had visited the country—the second was to offer up our prayers for the cessation of the famine which had destroyed whole families and villages in the sister island. They were assembled now again for the third time to acknowledge their sins, and to send up their prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty, imploring His blessing and assistance on our arms, for the restoration of peace to her Majesty and her dominions. Those evils were probably sent to us by God's providence as a punishment for our transgressions, and for the purpose of convincing the nations of the world how much we are all dependent upon Almighty God for everything we possess. The right rev. Prelate then proceeded to notice in vivid language the various evils of war, and the many crimes and sufferings which followed in its train. "War is the greatest evil that can afflict mankind—the most comprehensive and the most diffusive of physical and moral ill. It is an evil the most to be dreaded, and the most earnestly to be deprecated. The late illustrious Duke—the greatest military commander of his age—whose mortal part was lying beneath that sacred place, had declared that, next to a defeat, the most dreadful of all calamities was a great victory. If the evils, then, of war are so great, it is, of course, the duty of Christian rulers to avert them, if possible—not only from their own country, but from all other nations. He thought that we had all good reason to be thankful to our own Government for having so long striven to preserve to this country, and to Europe, the blessings of peace. Whatever our sins may be, we have not to accuse ourselves of having brought this war upon our country, by running to arms, impelled by a love of conquest, or a thirst of gain. Notwithstanding the praiseworthy efforts of our Government to avoid the horrors of war, we are at length compelled to resort to arms to oppose the ambitious and wanton attacks of the Sovereign of Russia, who is seeking to establish a despotism over several of the nations of the earth. Were it not for the belief that the downfall of the Turkish empire would inevitably lead to the domination of the Autocrat of Russia, it might be reasonably considered that our position was anomalous in protecting an unbelieving people from the aggression of a Christian power. But we believe that the progress of Christianity is more secure, and will be better, though more silently, advanced by supporting the existence of the Mahomedan empire, and thereby leaving it to be gradually improved by its free intercourse with Christian nations; while, at the same time, every security is taken for the enjoyment of equal privileges and the most perfect toleration by the Christian subjects of the Sultan. Amid much that is gloomy, there is, however, one consolatory feature in the present crisis of our affairs—namely, our present friendly relations with that great and powerful people of France, who have been too long known as our implacable enemies. We, however, cannot but look upon war as the greatest and most dreadful of all calamities, and as being fraught with countless evils both to the victor and the vanquished. The first cannon shot will announce the beginning of sorrow—of which no man can see the end—to thousands of our fellow-creatures and to the world at large. This, therefore, is a most fitting subject for national humiliation. We have all many grievous sins to answer for, and we should prostrate ourselves before God for His mercy and assistance. As the sins of nations are made up of the sins of individuals that compose it, so national repentance must be testified by individual repentance. Whether this great calamity be a judicial visitation or not, and although we know that Almighty God has decreed or permitted it, we should also recollect that He has the power to mitigate its evils, and to shorten its duration. We have been told how effectual with God is the fervent prayer of one righteous man. What then may we not hope for from the united supplications of a whole Christian people prostrate at the throne of Mercy, acknowledging God's omnipotence and goodness, and confessing our own great unworthiness." The right rev. Prelate concluded a most eloquent discourse by the utterance of a beautiful prayer in behalf of the people, and of all those engaged in the present war.

ST. MARY LE STRAND.

THE REV. J. F. DENIHAN, M.A., F.R.S.

I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?—*Jer. iv. 19, 21.*

The reverend gentleman said:—"We are called upon to renew those humiliations and petitions which are among the earliest recollections of the aged. The reign of death, in its most revolting form, has commenced; the bereavement of families by the uplifted hand of man against his fellow man has returned: the prosperity of commerce is checked; the progress of science and art is impeded, public expenditure increased, and the demoralising effect of national hostilities again blights the sympathies of the national mind. Our position, though alarming, is not without its consolations. The foremost of these is derived from the efficacy of rightly-offered prayer, in averting impending evils, or causing them to be overruled by the Providence of Heaven for the production of still greater and more lasting good. If 'the fervent effectual prayer of one righteous man availeth much,' how great may be the advantage accruing to our native land from the united supplications this day, of multitudes whose piety and holiness render them successful suppliants before the throne of Mercy! We may hope that the present check to our prosperity may also check that selfishness and idolatry of earthly things which a long-continued course of prosperity tends to produce. It was the pious hope of the prophet that 'when the Divine judgments were abroad in the earth its inhabitants would learn righteousness.' It is, however, lawful to mingle confidence in the designs of Providence with our humiliation and repentance. National improvements—civil, moral, and religious—have often followed war and conquest. As far as the present conflict has proceeded, it has already served to cement the interests of two nations eminently calculated to be useful to each other, and to the world at large; and to emancipate the Christian population of the Turkish empire from unjust and injurious disabilities; and it may terminate in the restoration of Christianity itself to the ancient seat of its dominions." The duty of continued prayer for our rulers, and for our enemies, was then inculcated; and the especial propriety of contributing to the association formed for the assistance, protection, and employment of the wives and children of soldiers and sailors, was pleaded. The gift of alms—always an aid to prayer, through the mediation of the Saviour—would be redeemed in the Divine blessing upon a nation, renewing its repentance with an act at once so highly just and humane.—The collection for this object was then made.

ST. MAGNUS THE MARTYR.

REV. S. MC'AUL.

Rend your heart, and not your garment, and turn unto the Lord your God; for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repeneth Him of the evil.—*Joel ii. 13.*

Our assembling here this day, by the Sovereign's command, reminds us that we have commenced a new, solemn, and anxious era of national existence. We find ourselves engaged in a fearful struggle with a young, extensive, and powerful empire. The war is, indeed, "just and necessary," but this is not sufficient to bring it to a successful issue. Our gracious Sovereign reminds us that to ensure victory the blessing and help of Almighty God is required, and that this is to be sought by humiliation and prayer. Leaving the latter subject for the consideration of the evening, we proceed now to consider the necessity and nature of national repentance. The Royal proclamation proceeds on the principle that obedience to God is the bounden duty of nations as of individuals, that national sin is followed by national punishment. The prayers that we have offered up, remind us that, as a nation, we have sinned, and that our sins call for the Divine judgment. A general confession is not sufficient. We are bound to examine our conduct as a nation. The sins mentioned in Scripture, as followed by national ruin, are impurity, idolatry, preference of tradition to the written word, opposition to or neglect of missionary efforts. Of these, as a nation, we have been guilty. To escape ruin, therefore, national repentance is necessary. A day's outward humiliation is not repentance. Rend your hearts, and not your garments, and turn to the Lord. Forsake your sins: do what you have omitted; contribute, each in his station, to

intain Divine truth, to extend the kingdom of God, and so to influence the powers that be, that this nation may be a people fearing God and working righteousness. Go to your houses, and humble yourselves before God: confess your own sins, which have helped to swell the awful amount of national guilt, and to draw down vengeance.

ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS.

THE REV. H. MACKENZIE, M.A.

Lord, behold, here are two swords.—*St. Luke, xxii. 38.*

The preacher commenced by remarking that we were not told who the two were who followed Jesus with the symbol of warfare by their sides; but that the fact that they were permitted to do so was, of itself, of no mean significance. Peter, doubtless, was one of them, and the check which afterwards he received, "Suffer ye thus far," prevented our laying too great stress on his possession of the weapon, and was a reason why we ought all to pause before hastily appealing to the arbitration of arms. The rev. gentleman then proceeded to remind his congregation that, about six months ago, he had attempted to bring their minds to the contemplation of a state of war, and to lead them through the policy of states to trace the underlying and inevitable will of God. He said that he trusted that, in the solemn declaration of war, which was the cause of that day's humiliation, they would real not merely the words of a great Sovereign seeking to vindicate the rights of humanity, but also the awful will of the Sovereign of Sovereigns, who had therein sent one of His "four sore judgments" upon the earth that it might learn righteousness. Duty demanded that he should speak to them of that lesson when the question of peace or war was in agitation, for half of mankind looked on love of peace as cowardice, and on war as a festive jubilee—the pageant of a few campaigns which were to lead to certain triumph, and to a vast increase of national glory and political power. His duty to the King of Kings made it imperative on him to set before them that faith in the revelation of God's Word ought to lead them to look upon war as a scourge of God—as a sign of his wrath—as a judgment upon the earth. It would be superfluous, he remarked, for him to prove to members of the national Church the lawfulness of war upon sufficient cause; for that was essential, as her deliberate judgment in the 37th Article of Faith. In illustration that that judgment was in perfect harmony in Scripture, he referred to the fact that war had been sometimes given to the people of God as a mission—as in the cases of Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Barak, and Saul; that it was sometimes laid on them as a necessity, in invasions of Judah and Israel; that it was sometimes encouraged as an act of justice as when Abraham pursued the Kings, and when David, with his armed followers, attacked the churlish Nabal; and that, at other times, it was considered as an act of patriotism, as in the case of the youthful David and Goliath, and of the King David against the Philistines. But war, though lawful when undertaken by the behest and in dependence on the will of God, was, nevertheless, one of the most solemn instruments by which He afflicted his people. War had been declared by God, by the mouth of Ezekiel, to be one of His "four sore judgments." It was as a recognition of God's will and authority that that day of humiliation had been set apart by the nation. By the solemnities of that day they proclaimed to the remotest people of the earth that they feared God, and were not ashamed to acknowledge it; and at that moment they were taking part in an act on which the Majesty of Heaven looked down with a pleased and gracious eye. Without wishing to derogate from the valour of our fleets or of our armies, they had yet to confess that their confidence was not in them, but in God. The preacher then proceeded to point out the grounds of humiliation to the newly-awakened believer was the knowledge that in this actual war God's judgment was upon the earth. Such a judgment could not be without a cause; and reflection must lead the sinner to confess that his own indifference to God's revealed word had helped to swell the tide of national transgression. Among the national derelictions of duty might be traced a neglect to witness for him among other nations, and to establish and maintain a systematic, determined, and living witness of Christ by the Church for the permanent extension of the Gospel and its truths. It must be the hope of all that the war might not interfere with the advancement of those sanitary and social improvements at home which had hitherto lingered rather than vigorously progressed. The sword had been drawn—the scabbard had been cast away, and the question, "Are we right in so doing?" demanded consideration. The voice of the country was that their cause was that of independence against tyranny, of freedom against oppression, and of the right of nations against the arrogance of an encroaching power. The circumstances should be of unparalleled solemnity, for they were at war with an empire whose territory was enormous—whose resources were exhaustless—whose wild and snow-clad regions had swallowed up within the memory of some present the noble army of a powerful and warlike state. The foe now was one whose serried ranks, if swept away by our artillery, could almost instantly be supplied—a foe who held life cheap when it animated serfs, and whose wild warriors were as reckless and daring as they were uncivilised. Equally startling was the combination to oppose that foe. Their bond of union was political expediency, and military rule; but how powerless that would be—if they had no other hope—against the subtle policy of their powerful foe. It was with some hesitation that he alluded to our ignorance of prophecy in connection with coming events; but it was not uninteresting to know that, while uninspired records of extreme antiquity contained predictions of the Muscovite power occupying the seat of the ancient Greek empire, there had been earnest and devout expositors of the Word of God who had fixed the exhaustion of the Mahomedan power at a date little remote from the present day, and who had led people to expect that the destruction of the city of the Seven Hills could be contemporaneous with the downfall of the symbol of the Crescent. Amid all that uncertainty and mystery one point was clear to him in the light of revelation, and that was, "That the Lord is King, be the people never so impatient. He sitteth between the cherubim, be the earth never so unquiet." Recurring to the words of the text, "Lord, behold here are two swords," the preacher remarked that of the two only one was used, and that the use of that one was checked by the benign words of the Prince of Peace. So it might be with us. God might use the word to sheathe the drawn sword, and might then give us grace to draw the other sword, which by its rest in the scabbard indicated the Spirit of Peace. The rev. gentleman concluded his sermon with an earnest appeal in favour of preaching the gospel of salvation to others more freely and more largely than we had yet done, and thus to devote ourselves, not to the destruction, but to the salvation of mankind.

After the sermon a short prayer, which had been drawn up and used so far back as 1597, was offered up for the success of her Majesty's forces by sea and land.

CHRIST CHURCH, NEWGATE-STREET.

REV. M. GIBBS, M.A.

My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul; the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.—*Jeremiah iv. 19.*

The rev. gentleman said, the Christian was affected by things in a different manner to the ungodly. The ungodly deeply deplored war on account of heavy taxation, depression in trade, and the general inconvenience felt in commercial enterprise; but the lamentation on account of war manifested by the Christian arose from an alliance with the false prophet, whom God denounced. Two other services were performed in the afternoon and evening to a very attentive congregation.

ST. BRIDE'S.

THE REV. C. MARSHALL, M.A.

It is He that giveth salvation unto Kings.—*Psalm lxxi. part of the 10th verse.*

"The horse is prepared against the day of battle," says the wise man, "but safety or victory is of the Lord." It is for man to use means, but God alone can make them successful. David was very sensible of this, and was no less forward in openly avowing that he owed all his safety and success in enterprise to the Lord Almighty. "I will not trust in my bow, it is not my sword that shall save me." "In God we boast all the day long." "It is He that giveth salvation unto Kings: who delivereth David, His servant, from the hurtful sword." It is a humiliating consideration, that creatures endowed with reason and humanity should ever so allow their passions to gain the ascendancy over them, as to employ force against one another, and add the direful miseries of war to the many sufferings to which fallen man is heir. Humiliating, however, as this is, when wicked passions and resentments, or a desire for unjust gain, or a greedy ambition, prompts men to war—

when wrongs leading to unjust usurpation are done to a nation, and perished in, and all redress refused, there remains no method of protecting or recovering invaded rights, but by an appeal to arms. If this appeal be made, as in our case it is, for the purposes of justice, with a sincere desire for peace, we are encouraged by the Word of God to look to Him for His blessing on our fleets and on our armies. Under such circumstances, our first duty is to humble ourselves before God, for our sins, and in doing so let us not shrink from charging home to ourselves the guilt we have contracted by neglecting to improve the privileges and blessing God has bestowed upon us. What nation has been so highly favoured as ours, in respect of the means of grace and opportunities for knowing the will of God as revealed to us in the Gospel? Yet how many thousands among us live as if they had no soul to save, no knowledge of a judgment to come—how many are negligent and careless of the duty of public worship—how many are so engrossed in the business and pleasures of this life as to give themselves no time for religious consideration, self-examination, or for making their peace with God, through Jesus Christ. Nor is this the only cause for humiliation. Even among those who are really in earnest about their souls' eternal welfare, how few rise to that self-denial, holiness of life, love of their God and Saviour, and benevolence to man, which ought to result from their abundant means of grace? And are there not many who place such confidence in their skill, their talents, their resources, as to leave out of mind the only source whence any certainty of success can be obtained? Let me, therefore, caution you against attributing to second causes what you ought to view as the appointment of a Divine hand. A real safety and repose are alone to be found in God's protection and favour, which is to be obtained through Christ alone. Such as place their confidence in their own resources, ingenuity, or preparations, provoke God's displeasure, and tempt Him to frustrate their endeavours. If to depend on the interposition of Providence without human exertion is to tempt God; to confide in an arm of flesh, without seeking His aid is to deny Him. The Divine displeasure does not always first visit with its vengeance those who have run the greatest career of guilt. Far otherwise; judgment often begins at the "house of God." He frequently chastises his servants with severity before he proceeds to the destruction of his enemies. To decide on the comparative guilt of two parties demands a much more comprehensive knowledge of circumstances than we are usually able to obtain. The mere external conduct is not sufficient to form the basis of a sound conclusion. It is certain that much might be urged in extenuation of the guilt of other nations which cannot be alleged in our favour. We have long possessed the clearest display of Divine truth, and the fullest liberty of conscience. At the same time, is it not a melancholy truth that many a member of our Evangelical Church has continued in the midst of this light unchanged and impenitent? May it not, with all propriety, be asked, "Are there not with you, even with you, sins against the Lord?" Are there not many who adopt the forms of religion, and are without desirous of its power? who bear the name of Christ, without having any sense of Christianity in their heart. Awful, indeed, is the condition of such! Our first duty, therefore, in all our circumstances of prosperity or sorrow, is a devout acknowledgment of the hand of God. Let us, then, implore God's blessings on our counsels and our arms. Be it our prayer that God would so accompany our efforts with success, that peace may be soon and permanently restored. Our first duty is to humble ourselves for our sins, then to acknowledge God's hand and implore His blessing, for Christ's sake, on the means used for obtaining success; and with confession and humiliation should always be joined praise and alms-deeds. While, therefore, you humble yourselves before God, alleviate, as far as you can, the distress of the wives and children whom our soldiers have left at home; and, for this purpose, I now ask your liberal contributions out of that which God has given you.

ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.

THE REV. S. BENSON, M.A.

The Lord sitteth upon the flood, yea, the Lord sitteth king for ever.—*Psalm xxix. v. 10.*

All things serve the Divine purposes; all things contribute to the bringing them to pass. We, short-sighted mortals—we, whose understanding is limited, and power finite, may be unable to comprehend the Divine ways; may be utterly confounded in their variety, greatness, and depth. Our conclusions, as to their design, and nature, and extent, and termination, may be altogether beside the truth. It is not given to us, unless to do our duty in the station of life in which Providence may have placed us, to observe the constant unfolding of the same Providence, and to be encouraged to perseverance in good works, in the Divine promises, and in the unmistakable operation of the Divine power, wisdom, and love. The preacher, having dwelt on the Psalm as one pre-eminently for the comfort of God's people, applied the text; first, to several periods of the history of the Jews; and then to several parts of English history—as the Reformation from Popery, the Civil War, and the attempt of Rome to recover her lost power; ending in the Revolution of 1688, from which time to the present—amidst many contests by sea and land, and civil and commercial changes—the country had been enabled, without material alteration, to maintain a proud position among the nations—the sanctuary for pure Christianity—the refuge for the oppressed. For about forty years our God permitted not the sound of war on our own shores, but made us a saviour of the civilised world, and restorer of European liberties. The oppressor found in us an insuperable barrier to his triumphant progress. He could subdue others, but not us. We came to the rescue of nations; as all that was dear to us, our very existence, was at stake. And God said to him—Thus far shalt thou go and no farther. If we were now to have war with a power with which we were then friendly, and, in alliance with a power, the ambition and tyranny of whose head we then sought to restrain, such were the extraordinary occurrences in God's providence, we should look with thankfulness towards the past, and rejoice that still the Lord sat on the floods—the Lord was a King for ever. But, was war really allowable? God did not only in old time permit His people to make war, but it was His will that there should be war. The new dispensation of Jesus Christ, was of peace, and its influence on the heart was to bind men together in holy bonds of pardoning mercy, renewing grace, and an anticipated heaven; yet Christians might, and, under certain circumstances, ought, to go to war; finding the reason in the unhappy condition of fallen humanity; the readiness of the strong to oppress the weak; the pride, and ambition, and revenge, and perverse, and cruel natures in the world. The New Testament showed that men might take up arms and not be disowned of God; be soldiers and yet Christians; and that it was our duty to submit ourselves to temporal rulers in this matter, as in others, affecting the general welfare. Nearly all persons in the county were agreed in the justice of the present war. A small matter kindled the strife; but, this being apparently settled, demands succeeded, clearly evidencing a desire for aggression, for ambitious conquest to take advantage of the declining strength of the Mahometan power, to add to an already greatly extended dominion. The injustice of such a proceeding appealed for resistance; and, in association with France, we were willing to spend our resources and best blood, that the injured may be righted, and the wrong and evil-doer made to understand the folly of his course. God's hand was in all; His purposes were accomplishing; His word fulfilling. The way might be preparing for the return of His people to their land, and the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom. Both great and mighty nations might rightly rescue for a while the Mahometan power; but Mahometanism, and Popery also, must shortly fall. And, whether the present were the beginning of the gathering of the nations to the great battle of the last days, it might be expected to be at least its precursor; and, that events would shortly transpire, connected with those revolutions and changes, which might be looked for in this quarter of the earth. God would order all things well. God might permit us to be foiled in our hopes; only He delighted in mercy; and, as He had exalted us among the nations, and given us large possessions, and distributed our people and language, and customs, and religion, in most distant and in various places, so might there be a most important part to be acted by us ere the end might come; and England and her happy institutions and privileges only disappear, the kingdoms of the world having become those of one God and His Christ. For "He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords."

ST. STEPHEN'S, WALBROOK.

REV. DR. CROLY.

[The service was attended by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, and the Sheriffs and other civic officers were also present.]

Happy art thou, O Israel. Who is like unto thee, O people, saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! And thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee, and thou shall tread upon their high places.—*Deut. xxxiii. 20.*

By the Queen's command, the preacher observed, they had been summoned to meet together that day to unite in supplication for the help which God alone could give—to acknowledge His sovereignty, to confess

F A S T - D A Y S E R M O N S .—(SEE PRECEDING PAGES.)



THE REV. J. E. KEMPE, M.A. (ST. JAMES'S, PICCADILLY).
FROM A PRINT.



HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY. FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.



THE REV. H. HOWARTH, M.A. (ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER-SQUARE). FROM A PORTRAIT BY BAUGNIET.



THE HON. AND REV. MONTAGUE VILLIERS (ST. GEORGE'S, BLOOMSBURY). FROM A PORTRAIT BY BAUGNIET.



THE REV. H. H. MILMAN (DEAN OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL).



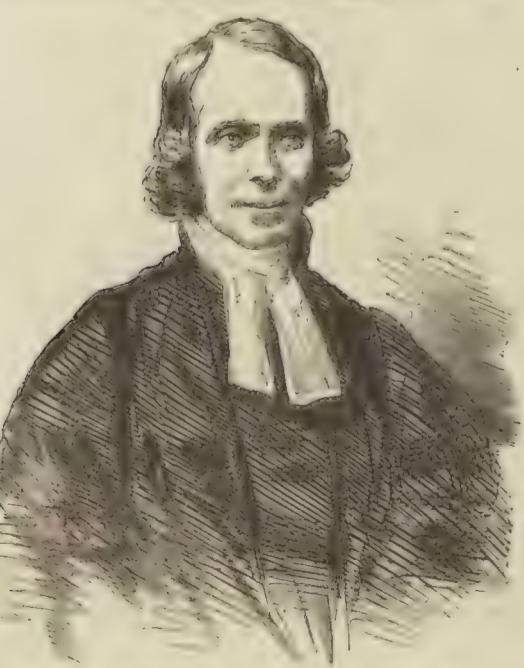
THE REV. W. W. ELLIS, M.A. (ST. CLEMENT DANES). FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.



THE REV. W. CURETON, M.A. (ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER).
FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.



THE REV. J. F. DENHAM, M.A., F.R.S. (ST. MARY-LE-STRAND).
FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY CLAUDET.

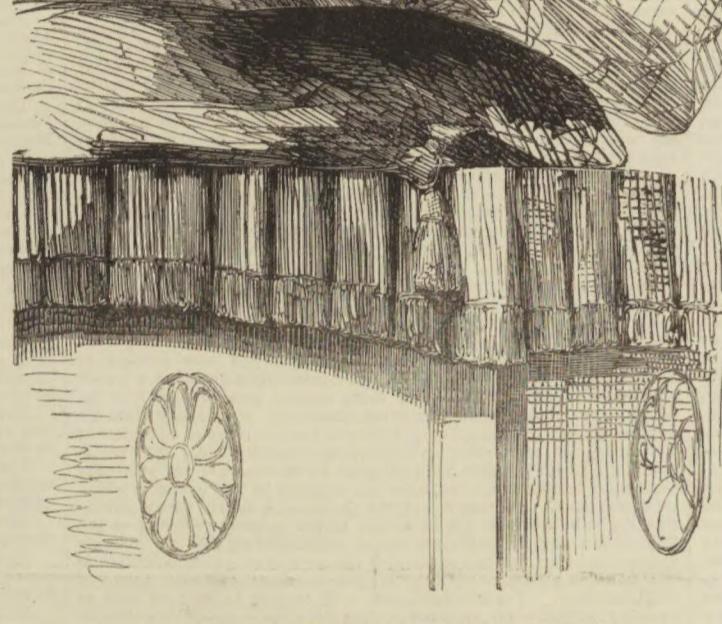


THE REV. H. STEBBING, D.D., F.R.S. (ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL, HAMPSTEAD ROAD.). FROM A COLLODION.

THE REV. LORD JOHN THYNNE, D.D. (WESTMINSTER ABBEY).

THE REV. A. M'CAUL, D.D. (ST. MAGNUS). FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

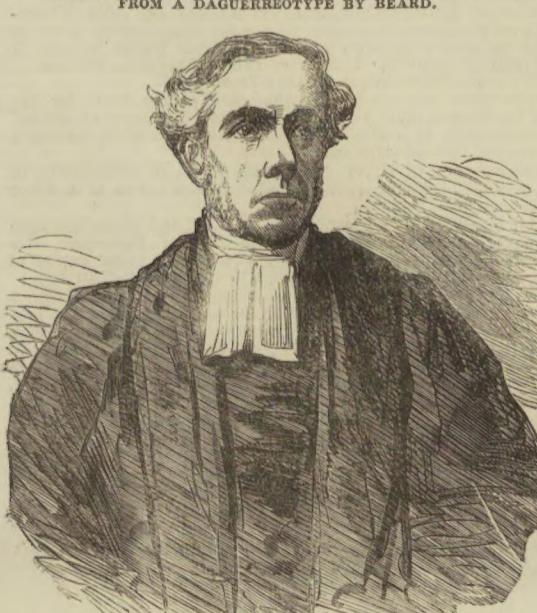
F A S T - D A Y S E R M O N S .—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE REV. H. MACKENZIE, M.A. (ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS).
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.THE REV. GEORGE CROLY, LL.D. (ST. STEPHEN'S, WALBROOK).
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.THE REV. R. DEAR, M.A. (ST. MARY WOOLNOH).
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.THE REV. M. GIBBS, M.A. (CHRIST CHURCH, NEWGATE-STREET).
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON (ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL).



THE REV. T. ROBINSON, D.D. (TEMPLE).—FROM A PAINTING.

THE REV. C. MARSHALL, M.A. (ST. BRIDE'S, FLEET-STREET).
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.THE REV. D. MOORE, M.A. (CAMDEN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL).
FROM A PORTRAIT BY BAUGNIET.THE REV. S. BENSON, M.A. (ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWAKE).
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE.THE VEN. ARCHDEACON BENTINCK (WESTMINSTER ABBEY).
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.

their own unworthiness, and to solicit His mercy. A whole people at once bowing down before their God was the noblest sight that earth could witness. It was a practical command to "be just, and fear not," to think only of our duty, and to be resolute in its performance. It preserved the individual from all perplexity, the nation from all fear, and made them repose their interests in the hands of a Power that could not be defied. The Almighty would guide them, like the Israelites, through the wilderness; and, like the Israelites, their harps would hang under their own vine and their own fig-tree. The object of his discourse that day was to prove the existence of two principles: one, that the nation which upheld the cause of the weak and the injured, against the powerful and the oppressor, would ultimately never suffer for its generosity; the other, that the breach of treaties was never passed by without a special, distinct punishment directly connected with the offence. In illustration of his first position, the rev. gentleman alluded briefly to some leading and familiar events in English history; for England, he said, was about the only kingdom that had hitherto maintained that principle. Beginning with the Protestant Reformation, as the starting point from which English power, civilisation, and glory had taken their rise, he passed in rapid review the butcheries of Spain in the Low Countries during the reign of Philip, the contest which ensued thereupon between England and that power; the defence of religious liberty by Queen Elizabeth; and the destruction of the Spanish armada. In 1789 came the French Revolution, and war was declared by that Republic against the whole world. England once more formed a confederacy of Europe. But that confederacy fell to pieces, and England was left alone, and fought alone, and conquered alone the independence of the Continent: when, divesting herself of her armour, she sat down as the sovereign of peace, liberty, and religion, for the longest period that was ever known in the memory of man. The second principle he had laid down was, that the breach of treaties was never passed by without the infliction of a special punishment directly connected with the offence. Unlike individuals, nations must have judgments pronounced and executed upon them here, and those judgments must be in the eyes of men conspicuous and condign. For evidence in support of this assertion, he would go no further back than the history of the last century. In 1772 the three great powers of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, entered into an iniquitous conspiracy to dismember the kingdom of Poland, a country with which they all had treaties. Now the special guilt in breaking treaties was the disruption of society, and God willed the existence of society, of which treaties were the buttresses and support. The conspiracy succeeded—the unjust principle triumphed, and Poland was enslaved. Then came the retribution. A quarter of a century had scarcely elapsed, when those three great powers—themselves the principal military powers of Europe—were successively delivered into the hands of a remorseless executioner—France. Their territories were invaded—their armies were slaughtered—their capitals were besieged; and with fettered hands, and bleeding under the scourge, they were exposed a spectacle to the world. We were now in alliance with France, and long might that fortunate alliance continue! But that country, too, supplied a prominent example of the evils of ambition. In 1775 the English colonies in North America revolted. In 1778 the Bourbon King, unable to resist the temptation of enfeebling England, broke his treaties, and made war against us. What was the instant consequence? Revolt in America was followed by revolution in France. That unhappy King perished on the scaffold; his family were exiled; his nobility and priesthood were massacred; and a Monarchy of 800 years' duration was cast to the ground and trampled on. Further, when in 1798 the French Republic had conquered peace, the use it made of the opportunity was to break its treaties with Turkey, and invade Egypt. The fleet was the largest, the army the most perfect, the General the most famous in Europe. But what was the result of this national crime? Shame, defeat, ruin! Of that fleet not a ship ever returned to France. Of that army, not a soldier returned but as a prisoner. That consummate General returned but as an escaped fugitive! And Egypt was lost. But vengeance went even further than this. That General had conquered Italy in the space of about two years. Italy was re-conquered from France in a campaign of three months. The French army was slaughtered. The French standard was tossed over the Alps. The Republic was overthrown. Its Government was extinguished. All hopes of a free constitution were scattered to the winds; and a whole population, which had done and suffered so much for liberty, was delivered into the iron hands of despotism, the most impious and inexorable of all despots, the despotism of the sword. The rev. Doctor, having referred to similar examples in Spain, proceeded to observe—I in 1812, the French Emperor made his treaties with Russia, without excuse, and for the sole purpose of excluding England from the Russian ports. He passed the frontier with half a million of men—beat back the Russian army—penetrated to the heart of the empire, and captured Moscow itself. But the Almighty arm was to be shown. Judgment was to come from Heaven, not from man. The hand of Him who sent a storm against the vaunting Armada was to be seen in the destruction of the invader; and the snows of Russia were the death-bed of his army. Then came the arrest of Englishmen travelling under the Imperial passport of the French Emperor—a manifest and flagrant breach of treaty and national faith. What was the consequence? An unexampled act of treachery was followed by an unexampled punishment. The Emperor of France—the mightiest man in the world—was given up a prisoner into the hands of England; and he was the only Sovereign of France for a thousand years who had died in a prison. Who, then, could resist the moral of these histories, or doubt a principle that had so often been exemplified? Above all, who could deny that most lofty, essential, and luminous of all principles, that there was a God who governed the world? He could not hesitate to express his humble but full conviction that the Emperor of Russia, too, was laying up for himself, or his people, or both, a tremendous measure of Divine vengeance. Still, that vengeance might yet be delayed. There might yet be much to do in the councils of the Almighty. The infidelity of Germany and the profligacy of all Continental life might require a scourge. The cup might not yet be full, but the judgment would assuredly come; for there was never a more unprovoked war, or a war that was more destitute of palliation. Ambition never stood before the world in more marked deformity. Plunder itself had never been more lawless in rapine. The sole offence of the Turk was that he possessed territory; the sole motive of the Russian was that he desired its possession. That the Emperor of Russia, amidst all the enjoyments wealth could give—that appetite, desire, or vanity could imagine—and satiated with pleasure and power, should seek for a new excitement in usurpation, rapine, and blood—what a conception did this supply of human nature, and what of the horrors of despotism! A word from that despot could lay a hundred thousand of his fellow-men in gore! Thank God, then, we had liberty! Thank God, we had rights, and knew how to maintain them! But already was the Imperial spoiler beleaguered in his own land. Yesterday the Sovereign of two seas; to-day he dared not hoist a sail in either. He could not look out from his palace window without seeing the banners of his enemies. He could not catch a sound from Europe that was not one of execration. He could not draw a breath that was not surcharged with the scorn, the ridicule, and the reprobation of the civilised world. The master of a hundred millions of human beings, he could now associate with none but the slaves over whom he ruled. And fortunate for him would it be if, with the ferocity of the wild beast, he had its insensibility. Yet, even of this man, we should speak in the spirit of Christianity, and pray not for his ruin but his reformation. We prayed, scarcely for victory; or if we did it was for the noblest of victories, a victory over his evil spirit, a victory over his fierce prejudices, a victory over his lawless tyranny. We prayed only that we might support the cause of justice, of truth, and of God. We prayed not for his destruction, but that he might give us peace, reconcile the world to the recollection of his character, and suffer himself to sink down into the grave unaccompanied by the curses of posterity. This day they were called upon by the Sovereign whom they honoured, to pay their homage to the Almighty God whom they worshipped, to humble themselves before His throne, to mourn for their sins, to repent of the past, and to reform their lives for the future. Let not these feelings be wasted in mere words, and let them perform the great work of humanity by contributing to the support of the wives and children of those who were now exposing themselves to the battle and the tempest in defence of the common rights of nations.

ST. MARY, WOOLNOH.

THE REV. R. DEAR.

In his discourse, selected as his text:—"God is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble."—Psalm xlvi., v. 1.

In his preliminary remarks the preacher said that "Humiliation days" were no uncommon things in the times of our forefathers. They had had to maintain long and terrible wars, and had been called upon several times by authority to humble themselves in contrition and prayer. We have been hitherto more happy than our forefathers. For forty years peace has continued to bless us; and great and worthy fruits have been borne, having relation to the promotion of God's kingdom upon

earth—the building of two thousand new churches, the increase of schools for the poor, ameliorating changes socially, missionary efforts, at home and abroad, not to mention the many important and stupendous undertakings which minister to man's temporal happiness. It is evident that such works could not have been accomplished in time of war. Therefore might our existing position be rightly termed, in the Psalmist's language, "a trouble." None knew better than David how sore a trouble, for he had often experienced it, and records as his experience that "it is better to fall into the hands of the Lord than into the hands of man": preferring, on one memorable occasion, pestilence or famine to the sword of his enemies. To whom, then, should we look for "help"? To God, as "our hope and strength." He can alone give us the victory; or, if He so deem fit, can cause "our foes to be again at peace with us." Prayer, therefore, should be offered up that He will interpose His arm; and, in order that it may be effectual, examination should be made into the causes of the visitation, whether we have provoked God individually or nationally.

TEMPLE CHURCH.

THE REV. ARCHDEACON ROBINSON.

Through God we shall do valiantly, for it is he that shall tread down our enemies.—Psalm lx., v. 12.

The rev. gentleman commenced by saying that David, the patriot King of Israel, after a lengthened struggle with the nations upon the immediate borders of his territories, and after having gained repeated victories over them, determined to restrain the proud ambition of Idumea, whose barbarous hosts, secure in the impregnable fortress of the desert, hovered upon the borders of the Holy Land and menaced the integrity of its possessions, having resolved to enter upon that just and necessary war, that righteous monarch—the leader of the devotions no less than of the armies of his people—poured forth to the Almighty the expression of unfeigned humiliation at the memory of the past unworthiness, and the defections which had called down upon the nation the Divine chastisement. There were many circumstances in the position of our own country, in the present eventful crisis, which might be compared with the history of Israel thus united under its victorious king. There was much in the language and attitude of our own beloved Sovereign addressing her people and leading them to the footstool of God's throne to implore His blessing before the first blow should have been struck by her fleets and armies, which formed an impressive and beautiful parallel with the kingly devotion of the Royal Psalmist. Now, did the heart of the nation, which had unquestionably spoken its sanction and approval of the war in which we were engaged, offer up in sincerity and humility its prayer for Divine aid in that war, or did we presume to utter to the ear of Omnipotence the vows and lamentations of a required repentance? That was an important question; and therefore, in responding to it, he should entreat those whom he addressed to use well and faithfully the solemn stillness of that hour; to examine, before the thunders of war were heard, how few there were actuated by the earnestness of a simple faith in the power and the willingness to save the nation, of Him who alone could ensure victory to our arms. To no country, assuredly, in ancient or modern times, had so much of prosperity been given as to ours; and of none, as assuredly, would so much be required. How, then, he would ask, had the advantages which had been afforded us been employed? How had the aristocracy of England, who held their position not for themselves alone, but for their dependants throughout all the lessening grades of society, employed their leisure, their wealth, their influence, and their knowledge? Had the ignorance, which had been proved to be the great cause of crime throughout the manufacturing and agricultural districts, been met upon their part by any adequate provision of general and permanent education? Much, no doubt, had been attempted in that respect, much was at present in progress; but the efforts to extend and foster education had as yet been only partial, and had been supported but in particular directions. The rev. gentleman then proceeded to dilate upon the effects produced upon the people hitherto by the partial knowledge which they had been enabled to acquire. Knowledge in itself was not necessarily a good, but power indifferent on good or evil; and there existed great danger that increasing, but superficial and perverted, knowledge should aggravate the evils which, at first sight, it may appear to tend to remove. To prevent that being case, more solid and permanent teaching than that which could be afforded by mere lectures, must be resorted to; but even that more solid teaching could not afford an antidote to the poison to which he had alluded. The true remedy for the existing evils of partial education was to be found in the extension of the pastoral teaching of the Church, not only by building churches commensurate with the increase of the population, but by breaking up our overgrown parishes into small districts, and placing in each one of those districts the efficient agency of God's ministry. For our negligence with respect to that as well as to other subjects—for our many transgressions against His Divine will, we should confess with shame that Almighty God might justly have cast us off, and deprived us of His favour and protection. But in the very humiliation in which an entire people knelt down to deplore the frequencies of the national sins will, for the past and for the present, lay the foundation of our hope that Divine Providence would not, in the hour of our need, withdraw from us His aid. Our swords were on distant fields: the thunder of our cannon was heard, perhaps, at that moment upon distant seas; but it was not the swords of the bravest warriors—it was not the strength of our ships, invincible as they had ever been—that would secure to us victory over our enemies. They were but the instruments of our success. That success must come from God alone. Let the nation's prayer, therefore, be to Him, as in His name was its whole strength. The truth and the reality of our prostration (said the rev. gentleman in conclusion) will be best shown by the unalterable allegiance of our hearts and lives to that God in whom we trust, and "who only giveth salvation unto Kings."

CAMDEN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL.

THE REV. D. MOORE, M.A.

And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the Lord: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord.—2 Chron., xx., 3, 4.

The preacher proceeded to a twofold division of his subject; the first referring to the Scriptural authority for these acts of humiliation, and the blessings that followed; and, the second, to the occasion of the present humiliation. Under the first head, it was shown that, besides the several Jewish fasts of Divine appointment, there were many instances strictly analogous to England's fast on this day, where, though enjoined only by a human and uninspired authority, the approval of Heaven became manifested in the most signal manner, and the depraved evil was turned away. And, therefore, until a misapplied philosophy should so far have obtained the ascendancy among us as to shut God out of His own world, we must believe that every act of national self-abasement and humiliation, every reverent acknowledgement of the control of a moral Providence, every humble confession that we trust not in sword or spear, but only in the name of the Lord our God, will come up with acceptance before Him, and draw down His blessing upon our land. The preacher then proceeded to show that one part of Jehoshaphat's fears belonged to us—namely, the multitudinous forces of the enemy; and proceeded to censure the confident boasting with which some looked upon the present contest, as if there were not everything in the military resources of the enemy to necessitate the most prudent caution and to stir up to the most fervent prayer. Think of war as one of the four sore judgments of Heaven, as the scourge of God coming on the nation for its sins, protected by our remote and insular position from the danger of invasion. Thus look at war, as it leads to a fearful waste of human life—of human life, not in its helplessness, and decrepitude, and misery, but in its vigour, its strength, and manhood, and aptitudes for moral usefulness. Think of it in the misery it entails upon households. Oh! how earnest should be our prayers this day that none of our brave countrymen should be cut off in the prime and blossom of their sin; and, though a pious soldier or sailor be one whom we can least afford to lose, yet let us pray that such a discriminatory Providence may guide the foeman's fire, that none of our brave men may shed their blood in their country's service, of whom it could not be said, in the highest sense, that Christ had not first shed his blood for him. He alluded also to the perpetuated jealousies and animosities which inevitably follow great national conflicts. Forty years had not extirped the hatreds of a great nation against us, on account of our victories over the ambitious Corsican; and if the present alliance with that nation should tear up that root of bitterness, yet the present war, if successful, would only transplant it to another portion of the European soil. After some further remarks on the righteousness of the war itself—the duty of prayer for our infatuated enemies—the necessity of pleading with God for peace rather than victory—the preacher concluded with an earnest and affectionate appeal on behalf of the fund for the families of those who compose our army and navy, who are exposing their lives for us abroad, while we sit in security and peace at home.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has declared his willingness to take the command of a Prussian division, in the event of Prussia taking an active part in the war.

The Cuban authorities forbid all persons who have not gone through a regular certified course of collegiate instruction, to write in newspapers.

Apartments have been taken at Homburg for M. de Bunsen, who is expected to arrive there about the beginning of May.

Lord Carlisle arrived at Constantinople on the 5th inst., and left on the 7th for Varna.

The Oriental Gas Company has undertaken to supply Calcutta with gas. One of the conditions of the agreement is that 10s. per 1000 cubic feet shall be the maximum price for public lights.

The 15th of May is appointed for the "aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland," to protest against the proposed inquiry into conventional and monastic institutions.

A jockey club, recently established at Adelaide, has resolved that the annual races shall take place during the first week of the month of May.

One of the regiments which has been most successful in obtaining recruits in Ireland is the 21st North British Fusiliers. At the present time there are upwards of 300 Irishmen in this regiment.

Mr. Edwin Forrest, the American tragedian, has become a convert to the belief in supernatural knocking and other spiritual manifestations.

After a contest of unexampled duration, the parishioners of Liverpool have refused to vote a church-rate of three-farthings in the pound. The poll closed on Tuesday with a majority of 537 against the rate.

Several French officers are treating, at Broussa, with Abd-el-Kader, to induce him to take the command of an Arab corps, and it is said that the Emir seems inclined to comply.

Arrangements are in progress for bringing under the early consideration of the Court of Session the question as to the right of passengers to use the piers on the Clyde on Sundays, as well as the other days of the week.

A large assembly was present on Sunday to witness the re-opening of the Church of the Sorbonne, in Paris, which had been closed for Divine Service for a quarter of a century.

The Great Southern Railway Company of Ireland has given £200, and the Irish Midland Great Western an equal sum, towards the proposed Dargan Institute.

The village of Oberberikon, in the canton of Argau, in Switzerland, was last week destroyed by an incendiary fire. Eight persons lost their lives.

Steps are being taken by the people of Edinburgh to erect some public memorial of the late Professor Wilson.

The Ecclesiastical Gazette of Vienna states, upon the authority of authentic documents, that in White Russia, in 1833, 33,000 persons were converted to the Greek religion. The means employed were distributions of brandy, and to those who resisted that temptation, an application of the knot.

The Simla, a new gigantic screw steamer belonging to the Peninsular Company, is expected to be at Southampton about the 1st of May next, to be placed on the Alexandrian line.

A duel was fought on the 18th, between two journalists of Turin, one of whom was wounded in the arm.

The Society of Merchants of Bristol intend giving a grand banquet on the 7th of June, to his Grace the Duke of Beaufort, who has recently succeeded to the title and estates.

By a late ukase the Emperor Nicholas orders the construction of telegraphic lines between Bucharest, Odessa, and St. Petersburg.

Colonel Rose, so well known for the important part played by him at the commencement of the Eastern question, has left Constantinople for Candia, to organise the hospitals in that island.

The Archbishop of Paris has addressed a pastoral letter to the curés of his diocese, recommending them to exert themselves to the utmost to have the Sunday properly observed within the sphere of their influence.

The copper mines of the Cape of Good Hope promise to be a very valuable addition to the wealth of the colony, the quantity likely to be obtained being large, and the quality good.

The Emperor Napoleon III. completed the 46th year of his age on Thursday week. A number of banquets took place in the various quarters of Paris in honour of the day.

Government have agreed with three West Riding contractors for the supply of 3000 tons of hay for our cavalry and artillery horses in the East.

Mdme. de Laemel, widow of a Jew banker at Prague, who died recently, has left 100,000 effective florins (262,000f.) for the erection of a hospital for the poor Jews of both sexes.

At the suggestion of Lord Palmerston, it has been proposed to form a volunteer artillery corps in Liverpool, as the most suitable manner in which the martially-inclined townspeople may contribute towards the defence of the port.

A pharmacien at Provins has recently discovered a means of producing saltpetre in large quantities from the roots, leaves, and stalks of beetroot, by a process similar to that adopted for the extraction of sugar from beetroot.

A few days ago a large tract of bog in the vicinity of Athlone by some accident took fire, and in a few hours the heath was, for a length of three miles, in a blaze. The cover for game is destroyed on a space of a thousand acres.

During the month of March thirty-six vessels, of an average capacity of 1076 tons each, and an estimated aggregate value of £465,000, were in course of construction at Quebec.

The purchase of steamers from the Australasian Pacific Company, by the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes Imperiales, which already possesses a large number of steamers, plying in the Mediterranean and elsewhere, has been completed, and the steamers have passed into that company's hands.

A man named Caisson, nicknamed the "Prince," has just died at Villafranca, near Nice, at the age of 104, having been born in 1750.

The ton of flax, which this time last year was worth only from £36 to £40, now brings £70, in consequence of the Russian war.

So great is the demand for men as substitutes in the French army that the price has increased in the departments from 1000f. or 1200f. to 4500f.

Incendiaryism is destroying property by wholesale in Philadelphia. Eight or ten fires occurred there between sunset on the 8th and daylight of the 10th, most of which were of that kind.

Instead of attempting to put an end to the demoralizing smuggling along the coasts, by adopting free-trade, Sweden, which already expends 25 per cent of the whole custom revenue in cost of collection, proposes to build armed steamers.

A Cingalese, belonging to a ship lying at Port Glasgow, attempted last week to run a muck through the streets of that town with a drawn knife. He was secured by a policeman before he had wounded any one.

From a recently printed return, it seems that the funded property belonging to military savings banks amounts to £219,045 3s.

A fire broke out at Salonica on the 8th, by which more than 600 houses and warehouses were destroyed.

A number of distinguished strangers assisted, on Holy Thursday, at the religious ceremonies celebrated in the church of St. Peter at

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THE MUSICAL WORLD of this Day, price 4d., contains the Second and Third Chapters of a New Life of Mozart, a Memoir of Sims Reeves, a Review of Mendelssohn's Odes in Colonos by Maeseran, some Extracts from "Berlioz's Musical Tour," Foreign and Provincial Correspondence, Reviews, and all the Musical News. Subscription per annum, 20s. stamped; 16s. unstamped.—BOOSEY and SONS, 28, Holles-street.

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GIACOMO MEYERBEER.

Paris, March 30, 1854.

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